Gc
929.2
C31lc
1386698

GENEALOGY COLLECTION

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
3 1833 02961 0869

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018

https://archive.org/details/caunterfamilyrec00caun

CAUNTER FAMILY RECORDS

BY

F. LYDE CAUNTER

Place House, near Ashburton.

CAUNTER FAMILY RECORDS

F. LYDE CAUNTER

1930

PRINTED BY
THE SOLICITORS' LAW STATIONERY SOCIETY, LIMITED,
AT THEIR WORKS, 102-107 FETTER LANE, E.C.4.

1386698

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
INTRODUCTION	9
OF THE ALLEGED DESCENT FROM THE EARLS OF CORNWALL	15
OF ASHBURTON AND SOME MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS	22
OF JOHN CAUNTER OF ASHBURTON WHO DIED 1772 AND OF HIS DESCENDANTS	43
OF THE STAVERTON CAUNTERS	62

ILLUSTRATIONS.

PLACE HOUSE, NEAR ASHBURTON *Frontispiece*

STREAM RUNNING BETWEEN OLD HOUSES AT ASHBURTON . . . . *facing page* 23

"WAYE," NEAR ASHBURTON, *facing page* 44

RICHARD CAUNTER, OF PLACE, ASHBURTON, *facing page* 54

STAVERTON . . . . *facing page* 62

THREE ARCHES OF STAVERTON BRIDGE, OVER THE DART . . *facing page* 71

GEORGE CAUNTER, OF PENANG, *facing page* 74

THE REV. RICHARD MACDONALD CAUNTER, *facing page* 74

THE ARMS OF THE REV. JOHN HOBART CAUNTER, B.D. . . *facing page* 76

I

INTRODUCTION.

WHEN I was in his house at Saqqara in Egypt, my cousin Mr. Cecil Mallaby Firth happened to ask me the question: "Where do the Caunters spring from?" It thereupon occurred to me that I knew next to nothing of the ancestors who, no doubt, bequeathed that undesirable legacy of gout to so many of us. I therefore resolved that in my spare time I would collect all the information I could, and I set out here such details as seem to me worth recording, in the hope that they may not be devoid of interest to existing and future generations.

I think it is a pity that old family records should not be preserved, and at some time or other collated or set out, otherwise they are probably lost through carelessness, or perhaps destroyed by persons having no thoughts of the past, but totally immersed in the rush and bustle of the present day.

Of course, I make no pretence to completeness; neither do I guarantee accuracy. In searching up very old records, it is astonishing what difficulties present themselves. For instance, in the compilation of a family tree, one often finds an entry of baptism in a Parish Register, but not of Birth; in old days people were often baptised many years after they were born. Again, there is the illegibility of registers grown musty with age, apart from the difficulty of deciphering

 the

the script itself. One also finds that dates engraved upon stones do not tally with the dates given in the Parish Register. National disturbances resulted in registers not being written up. For instance, between 1647 and 1662 there is a gap in the Ashburton Baptismal Register on this account. Again, those whose business it was to make the entries in the registers were often very careless, not to say illiterate. Thus it is by no means easy to be sure of one's facts, and compiling a tree is no light task, unless one is prepared to sacrifice accuracy, and to make an assumption where definite proof is lacking.

So far as completeness is concerned, it is obviously impossible to get a very complete record of a family. However, the acquisition of many further facts would monopolize more time than I can afford, so I have set down here such notes as I have been able to collect. I do not do so on account of there being anything very remarkable about the family. On the contrary, not one celebrity will be found to be herein recorded, and the reader having no taste for "the past" of everyday people, need proceed no further.

On the other hand, to those who wish to know more about their forbears, I hope that a few of these records will be of interest. Save in the cases of Bartholemew Caunter, Schoolmaster, and William Caunter, Mayor of Tavistock, I have not included any notes of Caunters who I have not good reason to believe are blood relations of the Staverton and Ashburton Caunters.

I regret to say that the great West Country historian, the Reverend John Prince, makes practically no reference to the family in his works on

on Devonshire. When he was collecting information, he called upon the then head of the Caunter family at Ashburton ; this gentleman, at the time, happened to be suffering from a particularly bad attack of gout, and upon being apprised of Mr. Prince's quest, he is said to have given the reverend gentleman short shrift in suitable language, after which it is not surprising that Mr. Prince did not deign to take notice of the family in his "Worthies of Devon."

As I have included some old wills, it may not be out of place to mention that these documents used formerly to be in the nature of religious instruments. Before the Reformation, it was usual to preface a testator's bequests with an invocation of the Blessed Trinity and a commendation of the soul to Almighty God, to Our Lady, and to all the Saints. Then came directions for the payment of "forgotten tithes" to the Church, as in the Will of Joane Caunter, 1548 ; then for payment of the "mortuary" or corse present to the Parson. The making of a just Will was almost looked upon as a religious duty. I had hoped to be able to obtain copies of some Wills of earlier date than that of Joane Caunter, but I have not been able to find any either at Somerset House or in the Exeter Registry. To add to my difficulties, I have found that although a certain Will is entered in the Calendar, yet when a search is made, it is found to be missing from the bundle wherein it is supposed to lie, as the Exeter Registrar informed me was the case regarding the Will of Christopher Caunter who died in 1627.

I must first acknowledge my indebtedness to the Reverend E. D. Drake-Brockman, the Vicar

Vicar of Staverton, for the very great interest he has taken and the great help he has given me in my search of the Staverton records. But for his encouragement, this little book would never have been printed. I cannot help wishing that there were more clergymen who took such intelligent interest in the history and records of their parishes.

I am also indebted to The Right Reverend Arthur John Maclean, D.D., Bishop of Moray, Ross, and Caithness for his permission to reproduce a portion of the Tree showing some of the descendants of George Caunter of Penang, a part of which he prepared ; to my cousin Brigadier General J. E. Caunter, C.M.G., for some notes of his parents ; to Mr. Henry MacDonald Caunter for some notes of his immediate ancestors. I would suggest that the Tree of Ashburton Caunters which assumes Richard, Rogerus, Johannes, Thomas, William and Christopher to be brothers and commences at the beginning of the 17th century, a copy of which many members of the family seem to possess, should not be relied on ; I do not think it is wholly accurate.

Lest I should offend the susceptibilities of living members of the family, I make no reference to them, save to say that no doubt the records of those who have distinguished themselves will go down to posterity in some form or another ; at any rate, the amazing discoveries of my cousin Mr. Cecil Mallaby Firth, son of Frances Caunter, rank amongst the greatest archeological work yet accomplished. He has truly caused the history of architecture to be considerably amended on account of his work in the area of the Step Pyramid, Egypt. For an exhibition of the greatest determination,

determination, ingenuity and physical courage, the escape of Major J. A. L. Caunter M.C., from a German prison camp, an incredible distance from any neutral country's frontier, will, I think, be hard to beat.

Concurrently with the preparation of these records I have collected a few notes upon the family of Lyde but I do not include them here, feeling that it would be inappropriate to do so.

Finally I crave my readers' indulgence for many shortcomings, and ask them to bear in mind that these records have been collected in a very short time, and moreover only in the spare time of an extremely busy man.

F. LYDE CAUNTER.

LISKEARD,
CORNWALL.
November, 1930.

II

Of the alleged Descent from the Earls of Cornwall.

There has always been a legend in the family that the Devonshire Caunters are descended from Condor, sometimes written "Contor," Earl of Cornwall, and also that John the Chanter or Chaunter, Bishop of Exeter, was in some way connected with the family. I propose to give a few notes regarding this legend, the truth of which I, myself, do not consider likely.

First, to deal with the Bishop, this gentleman was born at Exeter. According to T. D. Hardy and Le Neve's "Calendar of Principal Ecclesiastical Dignitaries," he was Sub-Dean of Salisbury, and Isaac tells us that he was installed Bishop of Exeter in 1184 and governed six years, and Lyson in his "Magna Brittania," states that under the South Tower of the Cathedral, there is an altar tomb supposed to be that of Bishop John, and that he died in 1190. The Bishop appears to have been of good repute, and during his short term of office to have carried out a number of repairs to the Cathedral, and he is said to have been a great-grandson of Condor, Earl of Cornwall. Prince, in his "Worthies of Devon," has a good deal to say about him, and writes :—

> "John, Lord Bishop of Exeter was a native of this County. What his paternal name was, we are not altogether certain; but

but are expressly told that he was so called, not from his parents, but from his Office, from his being the Chauntor of the Cathedral Church of that City. But what if there was no such Office in that Church in his time? Nor for near an hundred years after? So the same author tells us elsewhere* that Bishop Quivel (who was consecrated A.D. 1281) was he, who first instituted a Chauntor & a Sub-Dean in this Church. The matter must therefore be accommodated by saying, either that this was his sirname, as there are several of the name of Cauntor, living in this County at this day, or else, that he might be so called from his extraordinary sonorous or melodious voice, in chaunting forth matins, vespers, obits, and the like."

It is clear that his surname was not Chaunter or Chanter. He obviously took his name from the office that he held, namely, Chanter or Precentor, as it is called nowadays. The word "precentor" is modern, but in old Cathedral records, the holder of the office of Chanter was styled Mr. Chanter, and it was in the Bishop's time the principal office at the Cathedral, and the holder was head of the Chapter, there being no Dean until many years later. It is also quite clear that the Bishop left no descendants, indeed, it would have been irregular if he had. He bore arms a cross and chief sable. It is certainly curious that in searching up records of the Caunter family who seem to have come from Ashburton for so many centuries, we find that it was John, Bishop of Exeter, who, in 1180, executed the Deed of the Church of Ashburton

*Hook Catal of the Bishops of Exon.

in

in the Deed written "Asperneton." Even if it be true that the name "Caunter" was originally written "Chanter," it does not follow that there is the least connection between the Bishop and the family, and the only ground upon which the suggestion can be based is that if the Caunters are descended from Condor, they would be of the same blood as the Bishop, who was also descended from this Earl of Cornwall. There is a family of Chanter of whom Prebendary J. F. Chanter is one, and he tells me that he has always considered that his surname arose from someone who was connected with the holder of the office of Chanter. The name "Caunter" certainly may be a variety of Cantor, and I find that in the old days there were Cantors, e.g., Levagarus Cantor, Canon of Holywell, in 1104. I also find the name Cauntor, for Richard Cauntor was Prebendary of York in 1446, but in the first records of the family at Staverton or Ashburton, the name is spelt Cawnter, or as it is to-day.

So far as the alleged descent from Condor, Earl of Cornwall, is concerned, Carew tells us that: "What time William the Bastard submitted this realm, one Condor possessed the Earldom of Cornwall & did homage for the same; he had issue another Condor, whose daughter & heire Agnes was married to Reginald, Earl of Bristowe, base Son to King Henry I & had issue," and William Hals, who wrote a voluminous "History of Cornwall," tells us that at St. Clement's near Truro "is the well-known place of Conor, Condura, id est, the King or Prince's Water (viz., Cornwall), whose royalty is still over the same, and whose lands cover comparatively the whole parish; from which

place in all probability was denominated Cundor or Condor, in Latin Condorus, i.e., Condura, Earl of Cornwall at the time of the Norman Conquest, who perhaps lived, or was born here. And moreover, the inhabitants of this church town and its neighbourhood will tell you, by tradition from age to age, that here once dwelt a great lord and lady called Condura. This Conduras, as our historians tell us, in 1066 submitted to the Conqueror's jurisdiction, paid homage for his earldom, and made an oath of his fealty to him; but this report doth not look like a true one, for most certain it is, in the 3rd year of the Conqueror's reign, he was deprived of his earldom, the same being given to the Conqueror's half-brother, Robert Earl of Morton in Normandy, whose son William for a long time succeeded him in that dignity after his death. Is it not, therefore, more probable that this Earl Conduras confederated with his countrymen at Exeter, in that insurrection of the people against the Conqueror in the 3rd year of his reign, and for that reason was deprived of his earldom? Be it as it was, certain it is he married and had issue Cad-dock (id est, bear or carry-war), his son and heir, whom some authors call Condor the Second, who is by them taken for and celebrated as Earl of Cornwall. But what part of the lands or estate thereof he enjoyed (whilst Robert and William, Earls of Morton aforesaid, his contemporaries, for thirty years were alive, and doubtless possessed thereof, as well as his title and dignity) hath not yet appeared to me. His chief dwelling and place of residence was at Jutsworth, near Saltash and Trematon, where he married and had issue one only daughter named Agnes as some say, others, Beatrix,

Beatrix, who was married to Reginald Fitz-Harry, base son of King Henry I, by his concubine Anne Corbett, in whose right he was made Earl of Cornwall, after William Earl of Cornwall aforesaid had forfeited the same, by attainder of treason against the Conqueror and his sons, and was deprived thereof. This Earl Caddock, or Condor the 2nd, departed this life 1120, and lies buried in the chancel of St. Stephen's Church, by Saltash, and gave for his arms, in a field Sable, 15 bezants palewise, 4, 4, 4, 2, 1. (See St. Stephen's.)"

However, when we turn to Polwhele, we find that he gives us his opinion that Reginald was never Earl of Bristowe and that he did not marry Agnes, but the daughter of William Fitz-Richard, a potent man in Cornwall, and had four daughters, and by his concubine Beatrix de Vannes (or Vaus), a son named Henry Fitz-Conte (also spelt Count) after his death Earl of Cornwall.

I have particularly referred to the extracts quoted, as some of them were got out by a Mr. Charles Broughton an Under-Secretary at the Foreign Office; and many copies of his notes have been circulated among branches of the family.

This gentleman seems to have been a friend of the Reverend R. MacDonald Caunter. I have had the original notes sent for my inspection, and find them headed: "Origin of the family of Caunter in Devonshire & Canter in Cornwall"; and Mr. Broughton says, after he had perused the MS. works of Poole, Hals, Hooker, Carew and other books, that "the Caunter family part of whom settled in Devonshire & part in Cornwall, are descended from Condor"; and he further states

states that Condor's descendants "in the direct line settled in that part of the County called 'the South Hams,' & a younger branch retired to a more remote part of the County of Cornwall. The Devonshire branch have added a letter to their name, they spell it Caunter, whilst the Cornish branch spell it Canter."

He goes on to state that there is a family in the town of Ashburton who trace no relationship to these Caunters, but gives the opinion that they probably spring from the same stock. I have endeavoured to satisfy myself as to Mr. Broughton's grounds for stating so definitely, and apparently after considerable research, that the Caunters are descendants of Condor, but I have thus far found no confirmation.

For the assistance of any member of the family who may be disposed to pursue enquiries further, I would make a few observations on the references. Williams Hals MS. is partly quoted in Davies Gilbert's "Parochial History of Cornwall," published 1838. The MS. was for a very long time, after Hal's death, in private hands, and is not to be found in the British Museum.

After changing hands many times, it was bequeathed by the Will of a Mrs. Taunton to H. S. Stokes, Clerk of the Peace of Cornwall. If it could be found I think it the most promising reference to search.

Mr. Broughton also refers to Arms, but I hardly think he can have based his conclusions upon them. It is true that there is a certain similarity between those of the Earls of Cornwall and those attributed to the Caunters. The Earls of Cornwall bore 15 bezants, and those attributed to the Reverend J. Hobart Caunter by

by Burke, 13 bezants; those upon the screen of Staverton Church bear 15.

Again Robert Caunter (ob. 1643) according to the brass in Ashburton Church, bore arms three birds, thought by Charles Worthy to be hawks, but by others, to be Cornish choughs or sea crows.

I may here note that Thomas a'Becket bore arms argent three sea crows 2, 1, sab memb gules; and he was a descendant of the Lords of Liskeard, who were descendants of Garlois, Duke of Cornwall. The bearing Cornish chough or sea crow, though confined to Cornish families before Henry VIII's time, was afterwards granted indiscriminately to any applicants for arms.

However, this is a subject better fitted to be discussed by an expert in heraldry, though I am of opinion that perusal of west country genealogists' and historians' MS. is the most practical method of research.

III

Of Ashburton and some Miscellaneous Records.

Ashburton, a quiet little Devonshire town on the outskirts of Dartmoor, has been the home of Caunters from the beginning of the 16th Century. In my researches in various Devonshire records, I find it quite remarkable how little the family seem to have moved about. Except in Ashburton and Staverton Parishes, one finds hardly any Caunters elsewhere in Devonshire.

Ashburton was spelt anciently Asperton, and is thus written in Edward II's grant of a Saturday market to Walter Stapleton, Bishop of Exeter. At the height of what was known as the clothing trade in the reign of Charles II, a wool market was established at Ashburton, and we find many Caunters described as serge-makers.

The Manor of Ashburton was held in Edward the Confessor's time by Brictric the Saxon. William the Conqueror gave it to his Queen Matilda, and afterwards it was in the See of Exeter, until the beginning of the 17th Century. For a period the Manor was vested in the Palk family with which family one of the Miss Lyde's inter-married, and although unthinkable in these democratic days, it is nevertheless a fact that the Lord of this Manor used to have the power of inflicting capital punishment. The late Henry Mallaby

Mallaby Firth, who married Frances Caunter, was for some years Lord of the Manor, though not of course at a time when the lord had such arbitrary powers vested in him.

The Ashburton Caunters owned a great deal of property in the parish.

Place House, or, as it was sometimes known, Wood Place, a charming country house in beautiful grounds, is about half a mile out of Ashburton, and used to be occupied with some 80 acres of land.

In his Presidential address to the Devonshire Association, the late Mr. J. S. Amery said: "At Place remain the ramparts of an old Camp." Also "Place Wood or Tower Hill Castle is, or has been, surrounded by a ditch, now in part obliterated by agricultural operations, 300 ft. in length from north-west to south-east and about 225 ft. in width; in area rather less than 1½ acres. It stands above the 600 ft. contour. Here numerous flint chips have been found."

Place passed out of the hands of the Caunter family in 1889.

Waye House, an equally charming property, was formerly occupied as a farm, but in later years as a country house; it lies beyond Place from Ashburton. It used to be known as Highway and Higherway. It ceased to belong to the family in 1863, when Waye House and about 60 acres were sold.

The family appear to have been connected a good deal with education in the Town of Ashburton, and in searching old records it is surprising to find how very differently education was organised in the past.

The old free Grammar School of Ashburton used

used to be conducted at the ancient Chantry Chapel of St. Lawrence. Stapleton, Bishop of Exeter, granted a charter for a "free Scole for Children" in 1300 odd, but, on the suppression of chantries in 1535, this was forfeited to the Crown; however in 1594, the people of Ashburton secured an endowment for the school, and it was purchased from the Crown, and by Deed dated 27th December, 1594, the purchasers granted it to John Caunter and other trustees upon certain trusts under which John Caunter and his co-trustees were prohibited from permitting the premises to be used other than for a school-house. If they did, the grant was to be void.

I have in my possession a register of proceedings of the trustees of the Free School at Ashburton, therein stated to have been founded by Viscount Midleton and The Hon. John Harris in the year 1754. In this, curious rules and regulations for the conduct of the school are entered.

The school was endowed with a considerable amount of land.

Mr. John Caunter of Place, who had been acting as one of the trustees for many years, held the office of treasurer from 1810 to 1820, and in 1830, George Caunter, Solicitor, and his brother Richard Caunter, Woollen Manufacturer, were appointed two of the trustees, the latter subsequently becoming chairman.

THE ASHBURTON CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS.

These are in an excellent state of preservation and I give some extracts taken from years in which Caunters were in office.

1526–27.

1526–27. RICHARD CAUNTER of Ashburton was one of the Churchwardens :—

"Expenses—vi^{d} for mending ii copes, the green banner, and ii corporis cloths xi^{s} v^{d} for making seats in the aisle of the Blessed Mary in the Church, with poles and nails for the same, xx^{s} for an altar cloth of 'saten' brigge (Bruges) with 'bokerhm' ffranche (fringe) & making the same with ii girdles (zonis) for the same, xxxv^{s} iiii^{d} paid to several persons for their expense for riding and labouring for the right & title of the tenements of Halshanger; xiii^{s} to others for riding and labouring for restitution to be had on account of the expense & cost incurred upon the consecration of the Church & Churchyard (semitorii) xlviii lb of lead used upon the gutturs of the Church this year."

1557–8. JOHN CAUNTER of Ashburton Churchwarden.

"Payments—x^{s} iiii^{d} to Martyn the carvyr for the Boxe upon the high aulter, xx^{d} for a sheff of arrows (sheaf of arrows, twenty-four in number), xi^{s} x^{d} to John Geffry, for the wyne of the Churche which Master Vicar was contended to fynd, fr. vi^{s} viii^{d} whiche was dew in the yere of Rychard Clynes and John Harris, then beyng wardens, xiii^{s} iiii^{d} for the pycture of Saynt Andrew, xxii^{s} to our soveraigne lady the Quene for the rent yerely, iiii^{d} to a mason for settyng up the Image of Saynt Andrew, ii^{s} to Thomas Saunders, for pryckyng of Bokes and mendyng of Bokes, xxiiii^{s} for cloth for the sawdyers cotts (soldiers' coats), iii^{s} vi^{d} for makyng

and redd cloth for the crosses ii^{d} for bow stryngs, ix^{d} for cottenyng the cloth for the saudyers cotts, xii^{d} for carriage of the harnys to Chagford, ii^{s} for the irework before the rode and the iron for the holy taper, xiiii^{d} to John Lang, for dryving the dystresse to huyekpound, iiii^{d} for caryage of the harnys to Bekyngton, vi^{d} for a gorgett.

"The said wardens have in charge—one dish of silver, i box of silver, and iiii stones silver gilt, ix sauldyers cote, iiii saletts (helmets), iiii payr of splynts, iiii bills."

1577–78. John Caunter Churchwarden. His accounts of expenses include :—

"for reparacon uppon the Churche after tempest, viz. for one thousand of stones ii^{s} iiii^{d}, ffor ffour dayes worke for a man and a boye v^{s}, to Rychard Olyver for carryeng of armoure to Exeter xii^{d}, for lynynge and stuffynge of the murryngs (morrions—helmets), and flocke to doo ytt viii^{d}, to Mr. Southcott's man for trainyng the souldyers xiii^{s} iiii^{d}, for a murryon xiiii^{d}, for ii charges for the calyvers ii^{s}, for a key to the chest that kepyth the regyster books iiii^{d}, for a pottle of wyne when my lord of bedford rode through the towne xvi^{d}, for a wryting table to wryte on the good dede of Mr. Hayman done to this Parysshe ii^{s} vi^{d}."

and his account of the moneys spent on the poor makes interesting reading :—

"To the wardens of the poore this yere xvi^{s} iiii^{d}, Item for the poore and about theyr buryall xvii^{s} iii^{d}. For kepyng of the bastard, hys apparell this yere, for yarde and halffe of

of cloth to mak ytt ii cotes, ii^{s}, for makyn of ytt iiii^{d}, for cloth to make ytt ii whytles, (white frocks) xii^{d}, for cloth to make ytt too byggens (child's cap) v^{d}, for cloth to make too shyrts xviii^{d}, for makyn thereof iii^{d}, the whole some of his apparell is v^{s} v^{d}, so the whole som for bastard this yere is xxxi^{s}; for keepyng of yollends mayde att Downes Horwylls att vi^{d} the weyke for xviii weykes ix^{s}, for her apparrell thys yere, viz., for a pettycote cloth ii^{s}, for makyng thereof ii^{d}, for a smock cloth xii^{d}, for too neckerchers for too hedkerchers ix^{d}, for makyng thereof iiii^{d}, for too aprons vi^{d}, a peare of showes viii^{d}, a peare of hosen iii^{d}, the whole som of her apparrell is vi^{s} x^{d}, the whole of her ffynding & her apparrell is xv^{s} x^{d}. To a pore man that came through the countrie the xviith of August vi^{d}, to the house of teynymouth this year vi viii^{d}, for the healyng of Yollands mayde vi^{s} viii^{d}. Sum for the pore vi^{li} ix^{s} ii^{d}."

CHIEFLY OF INTEREST TO LAWYERS.

1565. The Caunters do not appear to have been over indulgent in litigation and the earliest case of which I have a record is the Chancery action instituted about 1565 by Rychard Caunter who was seeking to enforce specific performance of a contract to sell him certain lands.

Here is a copy of the Summons so far as it can be deciphered, but it is difficult to read :—

To the righte honorable S^{r} Nyc̃ãs
Bacon knight Lord Keeper of
the greate Seall of England
In moste humble wyse complayninge Sheweth
unto

unto yo^{r} honorable Lordshipp Rychard Caunter of Kylkhimton in the countye of Cornwall yoman That wheras one Phillipp Jenne of Poundstocke in the said countye of Cornwall husbandman . . . his wyef and James Jenne theire sonne are lawfully seysed in theire demesne as of Frehold for terme of theire lyves and the longer lyver of them of and in one tẽñte wth thapptenncs sett and being in Kylkhimton aforesaid of the demise and graunte of one . . . And they so being thereof as aforesaid lawfully seysed aboute three yeares nowe past yo^{r} said orator entred into cōmunycãc̃on wth the said Phillipp Jenne towching a graunte and assignem^{t} of the said tennement to be made unto yo^{r} said orato^{r} from the said Phillipp Jenne . . . his wyef and James theire sonne uppon whiche comunycacon in consideracon of the some of syxteene pound of Lawfull mony of England unto the said Phillipp Jenne by yo^{r} said Orato^{r} then in hand payde for the full bargayne and graunte of the said intereste The said Phillipp Jenne did not only ꝑmes to make and cause to be made as well from him self as also from his said wyef and sonne a good and pfecte graunte and assurans in writinge in the Lawe of the said interest whensoev he should be thereto requyred by yo^{r} said orato^{r} But for yo^{r} . . . orators better assurans woold uppon like request also himself wth sufficiente suertyes wth . . . nto bond obligatory unto yo^{r} said orato^{r} in the some of Fyftye pound^{s} for his quyet occupãc̃on thereof during the lyves of the said Phillipp . . . his wyef and James

James theire sonne w^th^out interrup̃con of them or any of them or any other clayming by or und^r them or any of them Nev^r theles So yt ys right honable Lord that altho yo^r said orator hath at soundry tymes requyred the said Phillipp to make and procure to be made unto yo^r said Orato^r a graunte and assignem^t in wryting from the sayde Phillipp . . . his wyef and James theire sonne of theire interest in the said tẽñte according to the pmes and agreement of the said Phillipp Jenne made to yo^r said orato^r in that behalf And also to enter into bond unto yo^r said orator for his quyet injoying of the same accordingly yet that to do the said Phillipp nether weying his pmes and agreement in that behalf nor yet the mony dysbursed for the same by yo^r said orato^r hath at all tymes denyed and refused and yete doth deny contrary to equytye and to the greate hindrans of yo^r orato^r unles yo^r Lordshipps favor be unto him herin extended In consideracon whereof and for that yo^r said orato^r trusting only to the bare woord and proim̃es of the said Jenne w^th^out taking any wryting or wyttnes to testefye the same and therby likely to be w^th^out remedy to charge the said Jenne by any ac̃c̃on at the coim̃on Lawe hyt maye therefore please yo^r Lordshipp the pmisses considred to graunte the Queenes gracous wryte of Subpen dyrected to the said Phillipp Jenne coim̃aunding him by vertue therof psonally to appeare before yo^r honable Lordshipp in the Queenes highe Courte of Chauncy at a certen daye and und^r a certen payne therin to be lymyted

then

then and there to Aunswere to the p̄misses & fard^r to stand and abyde suche ord^r and dyreccon therin as to yo^r good Lordshipp shilbe thought to stand w^th equytye and yo^r said Orato^r shall dayly praye to god for the p^rservacon of yo^r good Lordship in honor long to contynue.

Another action in Chancery was instituted in 1565 by John Caunter of, I think, Staverton, but the record is partly burnt and is practically indecipherable, but I find definitely that it refers to a tenement known as Gulwill in the Parish of Staverton.

[N.B.—Gulwill was the home of Thomas Caunter who made the "Caunter Gift" herein referred to.]

1573–74. JOHN CAUNTER of Ashburton and Rychard ffurse were paid for rydyng to Bovytracye.

1574. JOHN CAUNTER attended the Great Court of Parliament of our Sovereigns Lady Elizabeth held at Crockerentoore before the Earl of Bedford 6th Aug. 16th Elizabeth.

[N.B.—Crockern Torr was the seat of assembly for the tinners of Devonshire.]

Here is the first lawyer we discover.

1575–76. JOHN CAUNTER. In the Ashburton Churchwardens Accounts appears the entry paid "to John Caunter for makyng of the wrytyngs betwene Leonard Bound & Mr. Hayman and betwene Mr. Hayman & the parysshe for the land that he gave to the pore xiii^s iiii^d."

The instructions to the Trustees or feoffees contained in the deed Robert Hayman executed are amusing. It was therein declared that the feoffees should yearly out of the profits of the premises buy four new shirts and four new smocks, and

and give and bestow the same upon eight poor people, four men and four women, of the Town and parish of Ashburton, as to them should seem best, and to have need thereof: viz., in every quarter of the year one shirt and one smock.

There is a reference to this deed in the churchwarden's accounts of John Caunter, 1577–78, see ante.

1588. The following names appear on the subsidy Roll in the year of the Spanish Armada :—

"*Asheberton.*

"Phelip Caunter xx^{s} Roger Caunter xi^{s} John Caunter vj^{li}.

"*Withecombe.*

"John Caunter iiij^{li}

"*Staverton.*

"William Caunter iij^{li}

"John Caunter of Halsworthie vj^{li}

"Mary Caunter iiij^{li}

"Thomas Caunter of Golwill xij^{li}

"John Caunter of Herydon iij^{li}."

In the early part of the 17th Century, Ashburton appears to have suffered severely from plague.

The usual annual death rate was 50, but in only four months in the year 1626, no less than 272 funerals took place and I find many Caunter victims. It seems likely that Robert Caunter, buried in October, 1643, was one. In this month there were 35 funerals in the Parish.

1599. "*Aishberton parishe.*

"Names appearing on the rate for the rileiffe of the Power made 25th April 1599.

"Roger Caunter iij^{s} iiij^{d}

"Philip Caunter Widow iij^{s} lllj^{d}

"Christopher Caunter xvj^{d}

"John Caunter xvj^{d}."

1630.

1630. ROGER CAUNTER. In the action of Thomas Prideaux the elder and others and Thomas Ford and others touching the tolls of the markets and shambles at Ashburton 6 Chas. I (1630). Mr. Roger Caunter who stated he was then aged 49, gave evidence at length and this will be found in Mr. J. S. Amery's presidential address given to the Devonshire Association on the 22nd July 1924. At this trial Roger Caunter stated that during the past 12 years he had several times been Portreeve of the Borough, and he refers to his late brother Christopher Caunter who was Portreeve about 21 years before 1630 (viz. about 1609).

1640. BARTHOLOMEW CAUNTER was the Headmaster of Okehampton Grammar School in the year 1640 and was very negligent of his duties as appears by the following letter written to him by the Mayor and Corporation :—

> "Mr. Caunter, you may well call to mind that yor acceptance and entrance here (though upon some recommendation and yet not without much dissention) were only upon loyall and good behaviour. And your admittance after and continuance here were and are but upon yor careful pformance and paynfull discharge of the duty of yor place. Some speciall notice havinge been formerly taken of yor often absence, and, what is more, yor too much neglect of teachinge and instructinge yor schollers whereby some have been compelled to place their children elsewhere hath caused some that wish you well, privately and friendly to admonish you thereof,

thereof, but that not prevayling with you, wee whose names are subscribed (beinge enjoyned (?) by the will of the dead, and charged by the duty of our place in their behalf) have thought fitt hereby to give you notice and advise you either speedily to reform what hath been and is amyss therein, or else that upon a quarter's warning you provide yourself of another place and wee of a more carefull and paynfull schoolmaster.

yor lovinge friends

14 ffeb 1642.

"It is desired and expected that you give us yor answer hereunto written under your hande."

In the reply which one must remember was written in the year the Civil War began, Mr. Caunter writes :—

"According to yor expectation I have sent you an answer. Such unhappy differences of late have fallen out amongst the states of this land that many subjects are as it were to their wit's ends, by reason of which said distractions and jealousy, many (I believe) could not follow their vocation according to their former and wonted course, and therefore whatever you or any other of my accusers have found me negligent in, or remiss of, I shall readily and willingly use the utmost of my power to reform it.

"And remayne yor servant as long as I may.

"BARTHOLOMEW CAUNTER."

There is a small Brass Memorial between the South Eastern Transept and the eastern part of

 the

the Aisle in Ashburton Church. It reads as follows :—

Here lies BVRIED
ROBERT CAVNTER, Gent,
Who died the Seaventh daye of October
Anno Domini, 1643.

—o—

His piovs sovle wrapt in distemper'd earth,
Was now prepared for a second birth ;
He straight ascending the Celestial Sphere,
Cast off her mantle and hath left it here.

Under the verses are Robert Caunter's arms, surrounded by a wreath of ivy leaves. I find them blazoned arg ; a pale charged with three hawks close, but I think it possible that they may be Cornish choughs. Robert died intestate, and his estate was administered by his widow Mary, his father-in-law George Cruse being the surety.

John Caunter of Ashburton who died 1640 made his Will which begins in the following quaint language :—

"In the Name of God Amen The sixteenth day of December in the yeare of our Lord one thousand sixe hundred thirtye and nyne I John Caunter of Aishberton in the County of Devon Yeoman the unprofitable servant of God weake in bodye but stronge in mynde doe willingly and wth a free hart render and give againe into the Hands of my Lord God and Creator my spiritt wch Hee of his fatherly goodness gave unto me when hee first fashioned mee in my mothers wombe makinge me a livange

and

and a reasonable creature nothinge doubtynge but that for his infinite maiestie and mercyes set forth in the prtious bloud of his dearely beloved sonne Jesus Chryst o^{r} only Savior and Redeemer Hee will receave my soul^{e} into his glory and place it in the company of Heavenly Angells and blessed Saints and as conc^{r}nynge my body even wth a good will and free harte I give itt ever comendinge it to the earth whereof it came nothinge doubtynge but accordinge to ye articlie of my faith at ye greate day of ye generall resurreccon when wee shall appeare before ye judgment seate of Christ I shall receave the same againe by the mighty power of God wherewth Hee is able to subdue all thinges to himself not a corruptable mortall weake and vile body as it is nowe but an uncorruptable immortall stronge and perfect body in all poynts like unto ye glorious body of my Lorde and Savior Jesus Christ And as touchinge such lands and tenemts goods and chattels wherewth yt hath pleased almighty god to indue me I dispose and devise thereof as followeth."

1386698

He gave his Trustees his lands known as Fursly Ashburton upon trust for his Wife Phillip for her life but subject to the annual payment by her of Five pounds to his son Thomas "for & towards the better relief and maintenance of the said Thomas at the foure termes and tymes of the yeare most usuall viz., The Birth of o^{r} Lord God, Th'Anunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Nativity of St. John the Baptist and St. Michaell Th'Archangel by foure even or equal porcons."

The

The Testator made provision for a settlement upon any future Wife of his son Thomas "in case that the said Thomas Caunter doe marry and take to wief any woman by the consent will and good likinge of the aforesaid Phillip his Mother."

The Testator gave his son Thomas his closes or parcels of land called Balland Parke* Dure Mead and Hedberry Parke and to his daughter Phillip the House he then lived in. He gave his daughter Joane other premises in Ashburton. He also gave Forty shillings to the poor people of Ashburton.

One of the witnesses to this Will is Mr. Robert Caunter.

Proved 28th March, 1640.

1665. Roger Caunter. We find that at any rate one Caunter was in the legal profession in the 17th Century for Roger appeared in the year 1665 for Mr. John Nosworthy, who was a pioneer of Nonconformity in Ashburton. Mr. Nosworthy's ministrations had met with much opposition and two local justices of the peace went to Mr. Nosworthy's meeting house at Ashburton with drums and muskets and disturbed his ministry. Mr. Roger Caunter, Attorney, represented Mr. Nosworthy, but Mr. Nosworthy was convicted of holding a conventicle.

Roger seems to have practised on a large scale at Ashburton. I find his signature upon many old Wills, no doubt drawn by him. His name also appears in Wills as executor.

I think he is the Roger who was portreeve of Ashburton at the beginning of the 17th Century.

* Balland Park remained in the family until late in the 19th Century.

Thomas

THOMAS CAUNTER of Ashburton, who died 1672, made his Will on the 9th April, 1672, and gave to his wife Johan with certain limitations, his premises in North Street, Ashburton, and premises at the east end of the "Toone of Aishberton" and a close of land there situate known as Dure Meadow. He also made gifts to his daughters Johan, Margarett, Phillip, and Mary. The Testator refers to Ballond Parke. He then mentions his sons Samuell and Thomas, his sister Johan, his daughter Susan Helling, and his daughter Elizabeth, to all of whom he leaves properties at Ashburton, or money. He appointed his wife executrix, and he winds up: "And I desire my brother in laws Mr. William Dyer and John Cole of Woodland and my cozen Mr. Roger Caunter the elder of Staverton to bee aiding and assisting unto my executrix."

The Will was witnessed by Roger Caunter, Roger Caunter, Jun., John Caunter and John Cole, and proved 17th May, 1672.

1681. ROBERT CAUNTER was appointed Vicar of Bovey Tracey in succession to Francis Moore.

The patron of this living was Charles II. This Robert may have been the son of Robert whose arms are upon the brass in Ashburton Church, as there is an entry of birth in the Ashburton register "5 Novr 1641 Robert son of Robert Caunter." However, I am not sure on this point.

WILLIAM CAUNTER was Mayor of Tavistock, 1684.

Mr. Alexander in his notes on Tavistock history, says that "the only really interesting personal

personal touch among the records of this period (1682–8) is a petition against the Vicar, Jasper Cann, charging him with various abuses of his office. It appears from this that the masters and officers claimed to choose both the churchwardens, and that they appointed Andrew Doidge for the town and John Row for the rural parish.

"Cann took on himself to set aside their decision and obtruded one William Caunter, whom he swore in as Churchwarden (1682). As the town was incorporated less than three months after, and W. Caunter was one of the Aldermen named in the Charter, it would appear that the petitioners were supported by the Earl of Bedford, and that Cann's friends belonged to the Tory opposition, who purchased the Charter . . . ."

In 1807, Richard Caunter was presented to be scavenger for West Street, Ashburton, but any members of the family who may have a horror of the thought that their ancestors were thus engaged, may derive comfort from the fact that this Mr. Caunter's relationship to the others herein recorded does not appear, and that even if it did, in those days scavengers delegated their duties to others. No less respectable a personage than the Vicar of the Parish himself happened also to be appointed to the same office for another street.

OF THE WOOLLEN TRADE AT ASHBURTON.

The great industry of Ashburton was for a very considerable number of years that of serge-making, and as many of the Ashburton Caunters were

were engaged as "sergemakers," "clothiers" and "woollen manufacturers," it seems not inappropriate to insert here a few notes on the industry.

In 1876, the late Mr. J. F. S. Amery gave an interesting sketch of Ashburton and the woollen trade to the Devonshire Association, from which I propose to quote. He says: "When the woollen trade was first introduced into our valley as an industry it is impossible to say," but he considers that the relief of wool from all taxes by Edward I must have had its effect on Ashburton. Westcote, the historian, described the process of manufacture thus:—

> "First the gentleman farmer or husbandman sends his wool to the market which is bought either by the comber or spinster, and they, the next week, bring it thither again in yarn which the weaver buys; and the market following brings that thither again in cloth, where it is sold either to the clothier (who sends it to London) or to the Merchant who (after it hath passed the fullers mill and sometimes the dyers vat), transports it."

Westcote does not seem to have approved at all of the large trade thus done, for he states that "it is more burdensome than profitable for having engrossed so great a trade, it hath made the towns and country so populous that notwithstanding their best endeavours in husbandry, yet yields hardly sufficient of bread, beer, and victual to feed itself (notwithstanding the plenty of fish) but is commonly beholden to England and Wales."

Mr. Amery says:—

> "The clothier of a century ago (1776) carried on his business in a very different manner

manner from the woollen manufacturer of the present day (1876). He was usually a man of some means, generally residing in his own house which made him a Freeman of the Borough, and therefore a Parliamentary elector; . . . . One day a week the serge-maker put on his long apron and met his weavers, the poor people of the neighbourhood, who frequently hired their looms from him, paying a quarterly rent, generally of one shilling, and were by that means bound to him. He served out to them the worsted and they took it to their homes and wove at their leisure, returning it on the following week and receiving the price of their work. As all his work was being done in the houses of the poor, he had no operatives to superintend, and only a small part of his time was occupied by his business; the day set apart to supply or as he called it 'tend' his weavers, and an hour in the yarn market on Tuesdays being about all that was regularly required of him."

Mr. Amery also says :—

"He disposed of his increasing capital and vacant time by purchasing fields and gardens as opportunity offered, which were duly improved under his careful eye."

This is, no doubt, how many Caunter serge-makers acquired their numerous fields, orchards, gardens, etc.

Mr. Amery also tells us that the principal Ashburton clothiers acted as their own bankers and discounted each others bills and supplied cash to pay the spinners and weavers "for which in earlier times the trade tokens were used to make

up

up odd sums" . . . . The invention of the spinning jenny aided by the streams was apparently a great advance in the process of manufacture of yarns and at the end of the 18th Century the first yarn spinning mill was started in the Town of Ashburton by John Caunter (this is the John born 1768) who was thus not only able to supply himself with yarn but to spin for his neighbours at 4d. a lb. The other serge-makers apparently followed his example.

Mr. Amery goes on to tell us that :—

> "The introduction of worsted spinning frames in the north of England early in the present century soon rendered it advisable to discontinue the clumsy hand-spun chains, as the serge made from them was always irregular and unable to hold its place in the market. To meet this difficulty, the tops were sent to Yorkshire and sold, as much of the wool produced in this neighbourhood was of superior quality, and suited for fine clothes . . . This state of things could not be expected to last long, now that water power was used in our valley; and in 1817, Mr. Caunter started his first worsted spinning-frames in his factory in the middle of the Town, charging 10d. per pound for spinning. For some time he held the monopoly, and was able to spin for all his neighbours. But soon other machines were set up and all available water power made use of, our little stream turning ten mills in its short course . . . The trade seems now to have been at its height and upwards of £100,000 worth of serges were annually exported to China . . . In 1831 the population reached its maximum

being

being 4,165 whilst in 1801 it had been 3,080."

The bad times following the Reform Act quickly thinned the number of serge-makers. The trade declined, the immediate cause of the decline, according to Mr. J. F. S. Amery, was the removal of the monopoly of trading in the east from the East India Company which "opened all the northern markets to the China serge trade," for "Devon had supplied that Company with all that class of goods. The quantity required by China being limited, the North of England with its coal swamped us. Thousands of serges made for China lay on our hands. The old restrictive policy of our western manufacturers tied their hands from entering into new branches of the trade. Mr. H. Caunter (born 1808) alone endeavoured to turn them to account here by a process of printing, rendering them useful for various home purposes, but they did not take. Mill after mill was given up."

IV

Of John Caunter of Ashburton who died 1772 and of his descendants.

John Caunter, of Ashburton, was a Serge-maker born in 1708. I am of opinion that the date of his birth was the 14th December, 1708, as this is the date of an entry in the Register of the birth of John, son of John Caunter, Gent. I particularly refer to this as on some Trees which have been prepared his birth has been shown as 1699, no doubt on account of an entry on the register of the birth of John, son of Mr. John Caunter, Gent. 28th February, 1699. However, on turning to the Burial Register, we find an entry on the 8th December, 1708, of the burial of John, son of John Caunter, Gent. It, therefore, seems that the first-born John died young, and another son, being born a week later, was promptly named John. As a matter of fact, the Caunter Monument in Ashburton Churchyard gives the date of death of Mr. John Caunter as the 18th April 1772, and his age as 71 years, but I rely upon the register rather than upon the date on the stone in giving his year of birth as 1708.

The Will of this Mr. Caunter which is dated 9th September, 1771, begins with the long preamble of which testators were so fond in those days, encouraged no doubt by lawyers who were paid by the length of the document which they drew.

The

The testator gave to his wife Elizabeth Caunter his dwelling-house where he then lived for her life and afterwards to his two daughters Mary and Elizabeth, and he gave his house with the "dry house and mills lately erected courtlage and herb garden" to his son John Caunter the Younger. Various trusts follow and testator then gives his property known by the name of the Dock Inn, which he lately purchased of George Hearle and then in the possession of Mary Caunter, widow, to his two daughters Mary and Elizabeth to whom he also gives a dwelling-house in Ashburton, which he held of the feoffees of the parish lands. There are various other clauses and ultimately the residue is given to testator's son John. The Will was proved on the 8th June, 1772.

ELIZABETH CAUNTER, the wife of the before-named testator, made her Will dated the 8th February, 1787, which was proved on the 8th June, 1791. She mentions her daughter Mary Bickford, the wife of William Bickford, of Ashburton, her daughter Elizabeth Callard, the wife of Henry Callard, of Ashburton, her nephew John Codd, her grandson John Caunter the Younger, and her grand-daughter Mary Caunter the Younger. She died aged 90.

RICHARD CAUNTER, son of John and Elizabeth, lived at Ashburton, and died the 7th June, 1771, intestate. He married Mary Jerman.

JOHN CAUNTER, born 1797, died 1857, lived at Leat Park and Waye, Ashburton, and married in 1822 Mary Eales, of Golden Bank, Liskeard, daughter of Major-General John Eales of the Hon.

"Waye," near Ashburton.

[*Facing p.* 44.

Hon. East India Company. This John Caunter was a Justice of the Peace for the County of Devon.

JOHN EALES CAUNTER, born 1828, of Ashburton. He served in the 15th Bengal Native Infantry. His death in 1859 came about as the result of privations suffered in the Indian Mutiny. He served in the Sikh War, entering the battle of Goojerat in civilian clothes, having been rushed up from the port of disembarkation. He died at Beeawr, Rajpootana, India.

He married Fanny Elizabeth Ashford in 1854, and he and his wife were at Nusserabad in India, on the outbreak of the Indian Mutiny. At this time, all the officers in the 15th Bengal Native Infantry mounted and went on parade, and the ladies, including Mrs. F. E. Caunter and her infant baby John Henry, were packed in carriages and sent off under escort of Bombay Cavalry to Beeawr.

When the officers arrived on parade, they found the men drawn up in line with the Colours, and the Commanding Officer (Col. Shuldham) ordered them to form up in quarter column. They refused to move and finally the ringleaders opened fire on their officers. The Colonel seeing the uselessness of remaining gave the order for the officers to leave. Lieut. John Eales Caunter thought he would at least try and save the Colours, and he therefore walked up to the colour party and told them he would take charge of the Colours. The reply was "Go away, sahib, we don't want to shoot you." Apparently he was a very popular officer with his men. The situation was very bad and all the officers who had not already

already been hit, galloped off, pursued by a hail of bullets. Captain Philpotts,* the Adjutant, had a narrow escape, his horse being hit under him as was also the Colonel's horse, which reared at the psychological moment receiving a ball in the neck which would otherwise have hit the Colonel himself. J. E. Caunter came through unscathed and all the surviving officers followed the ladies to Beeawr which they reached three days after the ladies' arrival. These unfortunate women and their children had had an appalling journey. The officers' wives, having left Nusserabad during the shooting, were in suspense as to the subsequent fate of their husbands. It must have been particularly trying for Mrs. F. E. Caunter. Her son John Henry Caunter was an infant, and she was expecting the arrival of another child at any time. A few days later J. E. Caunter returned to Nusserabad and found the officers' quarters had been looted by the Sepoy mutineers who had destroyed or removed nearly everything. My cousin Brigadier-General J. E. Caunter (third son of Lieut. J. E. Caunter) tells me that the mutineers would not touch plated articles.

General Caunter has to this day a Sheffield plate coffee jug, the spout of which was cut off by the mutineers, who, finding it was not solid silver, threw it away. It has now been treated to a new spout! At Beeawr just after the incidents related above, Mrs. F. E. Caunter's second son William Ashford Caunter was born, the Rajah honouring the event with a salute of 21 guns. Beeawr being unfortified, it was not thought desirable for the ladies to remain there, and three of them, Mrs. Caunter being one, left for

* The father of Mr. Eden Philpotts and godfather of John Henry Caunter.

for Jodhpore. The heat at this time was very great and the journey trying. At Jodhpore they were well received, the Raja sending them (according to Court etiquette) a dinner of curries and sweetmeats, and an allowance of two bottles of ale per lady, "this—as he supposed—being their daily allowance." After their arrival at Jodhpore, the ladies had another rather terrifying experience, there happened a most tremendous storm and an immense subterranean store magazine of powder in the fort was ignited by lightning and blew up. The neighbourhood was wrecked and the windows of the ladies' quarters burst open and contents of their rooms thrown about. A full description of the events of these times will be found in "The Mutinies in Rajpootana," by J. T. Pritchard.

JOHN CAUNTER, born 1768, lived at Place, Ashburton, and was a merchant in the serge-making trade. He seems to have purchased a great many properties besides those which came to him from his father, and in his Will, dated 27th December, 1824, he refers to the following properties owned by him :—

Lands called Home Park or Lower Roborough in Ashburton.

His lands called Balland and Tucker's Parks, fields known as Balland Parks, his lands lately belonging to Miss Woodley called Home Park and Pitley Park and fields adjoining ;

His house at East Street, Ashburton ;

His cottage and land at Travellers Rest and other fields adjoining ;

His farm and lands called Waye and fields adjoining part of Brownswell ;

Prigg

Prigg Meadow with barn, stable, orchard and the glebe garden in Ashburton ;

His mills at the lower end of the Courtlage behind his dwelling-house in Ashburton, together with his mansion house where he then lived with the office, workshops, gardens and his house in West Street ;

His lands called Place or Woodplace, Rock Park and Bicklands and part of Brownswell and his tenement at Sherwill in Widdecombe ;

His premises in Ashburton which were his late grandmother's adjoining Heavyhead Lane and Lawrence Lane and Ford Meadow, houses and premises in Kingsbridge Lane, Ashburton, and houses and premises in West Mill, Leat Park, Gulwell Bridge and other lands and mills called Gages Mills and mills at Bickington.

CHARLES WALTER CAUNTER, born 1803, had the misfortune when a child to be dropped by his nurse, and in consequence suffered from ill-health all his life. He lived at Place with his father until his death.

HENRY CAUNTER, of Ashburton, who was born in 1808, and died in Stornoway, Lewis, in 1881, was a most versatile individual. He mined, made music, painted and travelled considerably. He and his eldest brother are reputed to have "run" an orchestra between them, which was not however, a financial success. Though originally of Ashburton, he latterly lived in Stornoway, Lewis, N.B., from which place he wrote glowing accounts of a patent grease which he had invented

and

and which he describes as one of the most perfect lubricants known, and for which he had obtained a patent. However, he appears to have been in financial straits at the time and to have assigned the patent to a friend, no doubt for a consideration. He wrote a diary of much detail in which he minutely describes the methods employed at factories he visited in the North of England, as well as the architecture of churches and other buildings wherever he went. His impressions of the steam carriages which follow are taken from his diary, which I reproduce without alteration.

He married in 1835, Sarah Fulford, daughter of John Fulford, of Crediton; their daughter Alice married at Allahabad, India, James Rawlinson Jackson, who was Deputy Surgeon-General I.M.S., and their grandchildren with the exception of Frances Erskine Jackson were all born in India.

1831.

The First Caunter to venture upon the Steam Carriages.

Extract from the Diary of Henry Caunter who had travelled north from Ashburton by Coach.

1831. "Saturday, August 27th. Got up at half-past five, purchased a Ticket and got into an Omnibus to be conveyed to the Station or the place from which the Steam Carriages start for Liverpool. When you arrive at the Station you ascend a large Staircase, pass through the Luggage Room and then go out upon the Rail

Road. When I got upon the Road, the appearance was most striking. There were about eight or nine carriages—some of them double—all linked together by chains. There were fixed on the ends of the carriages two round pieces of wood about nine inches in diameter padded very softly which stop the jerk on one carriage striking against another in stopping. This chain of carriages must have been forty or fifty yards long having a singular effect. In the front is the Engine. I could not examine it as much as I wished being obliged to take my place immediately. As soon as it was seven o'clock we started. At first there was a slight shock from the chains between each carriage being tightened, but not greater than a Coach receives when it goes over a stone. At first we moved on slowly as you may suppose from the power required to put such a mass in motion, one engine sometimes taking after it 120 people. There must have been near that number this morning. The speed goes on increasing gradually for about a mile when you appear to be almost flying. On looking at the road immediately beside the Carriages, it is impossible to see any object distinctly. It appears to be covered with a mist, yet amidst all this rapidity of motion, one feels himself perfectly secure, the motion of the carriages being so easy—there being no lurching from one side to the other—and only two feet from the ground, together with the strength of the carriage and the convenience with which it is fitted up each person having a comfortable arm-chair to himself of most ample dimensions. All these things combined give one a much greater feeling of safety than when seated on the top of a Stage Coach which every

now

now and then takes such awkward lurches as if about to turn over. The only thing which startles one is when two carriages pass each other; you hear a most tremendous whiz when there immediately passes a shadow before the window, for the motion is so rapid that you can see nothing but a dark mass on its being very near you. This is certainly rather terrific. At half-way they stop to take in coals and water. When you get about seven miles from Liverpool, you ascend for about two miles a slight inclined plane. Over this, perhaps, we did not go above the rate of eight or nine miles an hour, but on gaining the top, the carriage regained its motion and then I think we went faster than at any other part of the road having gone a mile in two minutes and a half. Before arriving at Liverpool, the carriages pass through a Tunnel about a quarter of a mile in length. Before you come to the Tunnel, the road must be 40 feet from the surface, and at its entrance there is a kind of yard where the engines are stationed with a house on the right in which is a steam engine for pulling the carriages through the Tunnel for the engine which takes you down the road is here taken off and a rope is fastened at the foremost carriage and you are drawn through by the engine placed in the house on the right hand. This is the place where the locomotive carriages are kept on the Liverpool side. The manner of taking a carriage off the road is this: there are several circular doors something like trap doors over which the rail passes. These can be turned round. When a coach arrives on one of these doors, it is unlinked from the neighbouring one. This door is then turned round and it is moved on the rail of the other road another door being

being then likewise turned to receive it. As soon as it is placed upon this, it is turned back again into a straight line with the rail of the other road. On being pulled through the Tunnel, the Omnibuses are there to receive you, when you are carried to the Commercial Inn one of the first houses in Liverpool. We did not go *very fast*, this journey being an hour and a half going thirty-one miles and three-quarters. The whole arrangement is most creditable to the company. You purchase a ticket paying five shillings for the first class and three shillings for the second. Each ticket is numbered and each seat; you take the seat numbered as your ticket. After this you have nothing further to pay. A porter stands ready to take your luggage having on his arm a large brass plate on which is engraved "Porter Manchester Railway Company." They are not allowed to take anything and the ticket says you are requested not to give anything to the Porter or Coachman. At the Office stand the Omnibuses to carry passengers to the Railway. These coaches are large, capable of carrying about eighteen or twenty people each. Their shape is that of a convict carriage. This does not speak much in their favour but they are very comfortable things. At the foot of the Stairs at the Station stands a man to inspect your ticket. You are then shewn to the seat having your number inscribed over it. My number was 45. Of course I had 45 seat. There are not more than six in a Carriage sitting as in a Common Coach. Just before starting, a man goes round and asks for your Ticket so that no one may get into a Carriage and go on unless he can produce his Ticket again. On arriving at Liverpool, every-

thing

thing is all prepared, there being no confusion; the fact is they act upon system. From the place where the passengers get out, there is a tunnel directly under the Town of Liverpool a mile and a quarter in length. This comes out immediately upon one of the Docks. The carriages run down of themselves.

THE ACCIDENT.

"Thursday, Septr. 1st. Left Liverpool in an Omnibus for the Rail Road at half past 6 o'clock. Started at 7 p.m. The Rail Way went on very well to half way the place of putting down passengers. After we had left this spot and were gone on about 4 miles which was done at a rapid rate one of the miles being gone over in a little more than 2 minutes, an accident occurred which was likely to prove fatal to most of the passengers. While going at the enormous rate of 20 miles an hour, by some means or other the Steam carriage called the Etna got over the Rail and ran over the embankment pulling the carriage which contained the coal along with it. The shock was horrible. The force with which it went off the road turned it completely topsy-turvy, the chimney being stuck in the ground together with the coal carriage attached to it. To this was fastened the line of Carriages, each carriage having 3 bodies and each body containing 6 people. By means of the Steam carriage jumping off the Road, of course the carriages were pulled in that direction, but from the straightforward great velocity with which they were going on, they did not turn enough round to go over the embankment, but the consequence was the chain broke, the first carriage was turned over, and whilst falling, one of the ends (which is padded to prevent the shock

shock from being too sudden from carriage to carriage) struck the body of the next carriage in which I was sitting, passed through the forepart and turned us over in the contrary direction, struck the next and turned it over. The shock was tremendous. In falling, the force with which we were carried on caused us to pass the steam engine which had fallen over the embankment. As the carriages struck against each other, they cracked to pieces just like so many lobsters, yet amidst all this not one person was seriously hurt, though two of the engine men were shot off into the ditch and one was under the coal carriage which was turned completely upside down, yet he escaped with only a scratch or two in the face and on the chest. It was the most providential thing that I ever heard of; between sixty or seventy people travelling at the rate of twenty miles an hour; three carriages upset; the engine and engine feeder not only upset but thrown over an embankment ten feet high with force enough to knock it to shivers and embed the chimney several feet in the ground, and yet the whole to escape without any serious injury is really miraculous."

Richard Caunter, born 1800, was a woollen Manufacturer, and resided at Place, Ashburton; he owned mills and various properties in and around Ashburton. He married (1826) Mary Ann Lyde, daughter of the Reverend John Alan Lyde. Richard Caunter was a most able man and was asked to stand as Member of Parliament for Ashburton but declined. He nevertheless took an active part in politics and in the light of present day political speeches it may be of interest to record

Richard Caunter, of Place, Ashburton.

[*Facing p.* 54.

record a portion of one of his made on the 6th of July, 1852, at the Ancient Hall of the Chapel of St. Lawrence on the occasion of the unopposed election of Mr. George Moffatt.

The new Member was proposed by Mr. Richard Caunter, who, after some preliminary remarks, said :—

> " At a time when they found men shifting their opinions to serve the purposes of party, when they saw the adherents of the present government shifting about in their political opinions, canvassing in the towns on one principle, and in the county on another, it was more than usually incumbent on them to select for their representative a man of tried and consistent character. On all occasions a general election was a solemn and important event ; it was then that the people selected the great council of the nation, to whose destinies was committed the interest, not of the inhabitants of these islands alone, but of the largest empire which the world has yet seen, whilst it may be truly said that the influence and the power of the British House of Commons were felt throughout the civilised world. If, therefore, it was important on ordinary occasions to select as their representatives men of tried consistency of character, and of high political feeling, it was doubly so at the present period when the representative system seems confined in Europe to this happy and favoured land. When they saw that a neighbouring country which some time ago ran into the extreme democracy was now trampled under the heels of a military despotism ; when the nations

nations of the Continent were all crippled and compelled to succumb to a military supremacy, and when in this country alone could rest in safety, the ark containing the light which shall yet illumine the liberties of the world—it was surely a period of solemn responsibility. Another reason why it behoved the people to take care now to send consistent politicians as their representatives, was, that Her Majesty had appealed to her people on one of the most important questions which had ever agitated the minds of men, a question which men had believed was already decided. But the people were called on to say whether they would maintain the system of free-trade which had brought them so many benefits, or whether they wished to go back to that system of protection, under which the people were frequently in a state of famine, and constantly under the apprehension of a famine. If they believed that free-trade had given cheap and abundant food to the people—if they believed that it had conferred blessings on the inhabitants of this country, and would yet confer blessings on the world, then they would send to the House of Commons, one who had been from the first a firm and strenuous and constant advocate, and who, by his vote in one branch, had risked his seat, if not forfeited it for the borough which he had represented so faithfully, and had thereby given the best earnest of the faith and sincerity of his attachment to that great principle. Other great questions would soon occupy the public mind, and on almost

almost all these, the opinions of Mr. Moffatt were coincident with their own. Connected with the great question of free-trade, there was some local rates and expenses which attended the cultivation of land. They knew that in passing through the great change, an important interest had suffered a material depression and though they hoped that it was now passing away—if it could be shown, as shown he dare say it could be, that there were certain expenses entailed on that interest, it would be the duty of the legislature to examine the question, and to afford the agriculturists relief. Connected with this question of local rates was one which affected very materially a large class of the people—the law of settlement. They talked of the great principle of free-trade—that of buying in the cheapest and selling in the dearest market; now the only commodity which the labourer had to dispose of was his labour and the effect of the law of settlement was very often to interfere with the free disposal of that labour. The law of settlement also operated most injuriously on the community, by the inducement it held out to landowners to let down Cottages and thus drive the peasantry, who they were told were their country's pride, into the purlieus of the towns, depriving them of their cottage homes, and compelling them to walk miles to their work. That was a very important question —it would force itself on the legislature and he believed he was doing his duty in calling Mr. Moffatt's attention to it. Another important question was that of the reduction

of the national expenditure. He always believed that the national expenditure was too large, and that the only means of getting relief from taxation to any extent was by cutting down that expenditure. Another question which had lately been submitted to the legislature, was the great one of Parliamentary Reform. He would not go into that subject further than to observe, that though some thought that in times of quietness such questions should not be raised, others and with greater reason were of opinion that in a period of calm and contentment, a wise statesman would take the opportunity of reforming the institutions of the country in accordance with the spirit and the tendency of the age."

George Caunter, of Ashburton, born 1806, son of John Caunter, practised as a Solicitor at Ashburton, and married Jane Frances Woodley. He died 1876. There is a memorial window to him and his wife in the South Aisle of Ashburton Church. His wife was born at Halshanger, Devonshire, in 1819, and was the third daughter of James Woodley, of Halshanger.

Henry Caunter, Solicitor, Liskeard, son of Richard Caunter, was a native of Ashburton. He was educated at the old Grammar School there, and came to Liskeard in 1851, in his eighteenth year, and was articled to Mr. Bernard Anstis, a prominent lawyer. He was admitted a solicitor in 1856, and subsequently he entered into partnership with Mr. Anstis, on whose death he succeeded to the large practice. In 1858, he

he married Miss Catherine Mary Lawrence, daughter of Mr. Thomas Hodge Lawrence.* In November, 1862, he was elected Mayor. It was in his first year of office that the marriage of the Prince of Wales took place, and he was one of the two Cornish mayors who were invited to London to witness the ceremonies attendant on that event. He was at the same time presented at Court by the Earl of St. Germans. For the next decade, he continued to take an active part in municipal affairs, interesting himself especially in all public improvements. In 1871 he became an alderman, and continued to hold that office until 19th April, 1879, when he was appointed Clerk to the Borough Justices. Three years previously—on 12th February, 1876—he had received a similar appointment for the Hundred of West, and held both offices until his decease. He was held to be the ablest conveyancer in the county, and in all matters connected with the transfer of real estate and management of landed property, he occupied a remarkable position. In 1895, he served as Under-Sheriff of Cornwall, the Sheriff for that year being Sir William Lewis Salusbury Trelawny. In that capacity, he had the conduct of the elections in the whole of the Cornish constituencies.

* Miss Catherine Mary Lawrence was directly descended from John Lawrence, a native of Suffolk, England, who was one of the original settlers in America. He probably sailed with Governor Winthrop in 1630. His second son, Nathaniel, born in 1639, became an Ensign of the Military Company of Groton in 1673. Nathaniel's second son, John, born 1667, was a property owner at Lexington. John's fourth son, William, born 1697, served in the army, saw considerable active service and became a Colonel in 1754. Colonel William Lawrence's eldest son, William, born 1723, studied at Harvard for the Ministry, and was chosen Minister at Lincoln, Mass., in 1748; his son Abel, born 1771, became a doctor, and, having come to England, he practised at Liskeard. Abel's son, Thomas Hodge Lawrence, being Catherine Mary Lawrence's father.

From his youth, Henry Caunter played a prominent part in political life. While still in his teens, he began to interest himself in party warfare. At Liskeard, under Mr. Anstis, he developed his experience in this direction, and took a place in the councils of his party, not only in the borough, but also in the old county constituency of East Cornwall. A staunch Liberal of the old school, he was entrusted with political missions to London on behalf of the Liberal party in the borough, where he was for some years chairman of Mr. Leonard Courtney's Committee. He was a great admirer of Mr. Gladstone whom he had met.

Dr. Richard Lawrence Caunter, the eldest son of Mr. Henry Caunter, was born in 1860. Was educated at Uppingham, where he was Captain of Rugby, Champion of Athletics; had a total of points which, so far as I know, still remains unbeaten, and was Captain of the Gym. 8. Studied at Edinburgh University; played first-class Association and also Rugby football. He was asked to play for Scotland when at Edinburgh but, owing to qualification for England, he refused. Broke the world's record long jump by jumping 23 ft. 4 ins. on grass. (N.B.—This jump was subsequently beaten by C. B. Fry). Practised medicine at Banwell, in London, and in Staffordshire. Degrees, M.D. (Brux.) Hons., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (Edin.), L.F.P.S. (Glasg.). Died, 19th December, 1918.

Henry Lyde Caunter, born 1865, the youngest son of Mr. Henry Caunter, of Liskeard. Educated at Mannamead School, Plymouth. Was afterwards articled

hillip

Joan
b. 162
at Ash

From his youth, Henry Caunter played a prominent part in political life. While still in his teens, he began to interest himself in party warfare. At Liskeard, under Mr. Anstis, he developed his experience in this direction, and took a place in the councils of his party, not only in the borough, but also in the old county constituency of East Cornwall. A staunch Liberal of the old school, he was entrusted with political missions to London on behalf of the Liberal party in the borough, where he was for some years chairman of Mr. Leonard Courtney's Committee. He was a great admirer of Mr. Gladstone whom he had met.

Dr. Richard Lawrence Caunter, the eldest son of Mr. Henry Caunter, was born in 1860. Was educated at Uppingham, where he was Captain of Rugby, Champion of Athletics; had a total of points which, so far as I know, still remains unbeaten, and was Captain of the Gym. 8. Studied at Edinburgh University; played first-class Association and also Rugby football. He was asked to play for Scotland when at Edinburgh but, owing to qualification for England, he refused. Broke the world's record long jump by jumping 23 ft. 4 ins. on grass. (N.B.—This jump was subsequently beaten by C. B. Fry). Practised medicine at Banwell, in London, and in Staffordshire. Degrees, M.D. (Brux.) Hons., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (Edin.), L.F.P.S. (Glasg.). Died, 19th December, 1918.

Henry Lyde Caunter, born 1865, the youngest son of Mr. Henry Caunter, of Liskeard. Educated at Mannamead School, Plymouth. Was afterwards articled

John Cayniter ob. 1640 at Ashburton = Phillip

Thomas b. 1622 ob. 1672 at Ashburton = Johan

Phillip (Girl)

Joan b. 1625 at Ashburton

Margaret b. 1652 at Ashburton

Mary b. 1654 at Ashburton

Susanna b. 1650 at Ashburton

Elizabeth b. 1663 at Ashburton

John b. 1637 ob. 1735 at Ashburton

Thomas b. 1659 at Ashburton

Samuel b. 1665 at Ashburton

Johan (daughter)

Phillip (daughter)

Ibbett b. 1688 m. 1723 W. Withycombe at Ashburton

Johanna

Jane b. 1690 at Ashburton

Elizabeth b. 1692 ob. 1716 at Ashburton

Margaret b. 1694 at Ashburton ob. 1699 at Ashburton

John b. 1699 at Ashburton ob. 1708 at Ashburton

Henry b. 1702 at Ashburton

Sarah b. 1704 at Ashburton ob. 1713

John b. 1708 at Ashburton ob. 1772 at Ashburton = 1730 Elizabeth Gosswell b. 1699 ob. 1789 at Ashburton

Jane b. 1726

Sarah b. 1704

Elizabeth b. 1733 at Ashburton m. H. Callard 1773.

Joan b. 1735 m. J. Codd 1752. — John Codd

John b. 1738 at Ashburton ob. 1798 (unmarried)

Richard b. 1741 at Ashburton ob. 1771 at Ashburton = 1767 at Ashburton Mary Jerman b. 1745. ob. 1824.

Mary = 1771 W. Bickford

John b. 1768 at Ashburton ob. 1825 at Ashburton = 1794 at Ashburton Grace Leaman ob. 1824.

Mary Jerman b. 1763 ob. 1832 at Ashburton

John b. 1797 ob. 1857 = 1822 Mary Eales b. 1799 ob. 1869

Grace Jerman b. 1800 at Ashburton ob. 1811.

Richard b. 1800 at Ashburton ob. 1861 at Ashburton = 1826 April 26 at Ashburton Mary Anne Lyde ob. 1860 at Ashburton

Charles Walter bap. 1803 at Ashburton ob. 1868

George b. 1806 at Ashburton ob. 1876. = 1849 at Ashburton Jane Frances Woodley ob. 1893 at Ashburton

Henry b. Ashburton 1808 ob. Stornoway Lewis 1881 = 1835 Sarah Fulford b. 1811 d. 1842

Grace ob. Dec. 1882 = 1870 R.L. Berry ob. 1873

John Eales b. 1828 at Ashburton ob. 1859 = 1854 Fanny E. Ashford

John Henry b. 1855

William Ashford b. 1857 ob. = Evangeline Garden

Rowena Evangeline Grace

James Eales b. 1859 = Kate Haworth

Grace = 1920 John Mc Glen K.C.C. ob. 1924

Katherine Muriel 1923 Alan W. Millar

Nancy

John Charles Ashford b. 1897 Killed in achon 1917.

Frances bap. 1845 at Ashburton = 1877 Henry Mallaby Firth

Jessie bap. 1846 ob. at Ashburton

George ob. 1887

Cecil Mallaby b. 1878 at Ashburton

Ralph Woodley b. 1879 at Ashburton

Dorothy Mary

Lilian ob.

Sarah Fulford b. Ashburton 1836 ob. Kirkbuddo Forfar 1896

Henry died young

Alice b. Ashburton 1840 ob. Kirkbuddo 1916 = James Rawlinson Jackson b. 1832 Dep. Surgeon General I.M.S. ob. 1887

A Boy died in infancy

Henry Erskine b. 1870 ob. 1871

George Erskine b. in India 1872

Alice Mabel b. India 1873

Frances Erskine b. England 1876 ob. Kirkbuddo 1885

Maud Erskine b. India 1879 ob. India 1880

John bap. 1827 at Ashburton ob. 1829 at Ashburton

Richard bap. 1829 at Ashburton ob. 1851 at Ashburton

Mary bap. 1830 at Ashburton ob. 1848 at Ashburton

Grace bap. 1830 at Ashburton ob. 1848 at Ashburton

Henry bap. 1833 at Ashburton ob. 1903 at Liskeard = 1858 Catherine Mary Laurence ob. 1914 at Liskeard

Elizabeth b. 1835 at Ashburton ob. 1904. = 1880 Rev. John Bell

Ellen bap. 1837 at Ashburton ob. 1920 at Liskeard = 1878 John Furness, a Surgeon.

Ethel = William Hewetson ob. 1929 at Downderry

Richard Laurence ob. at Kingswear = Wilhelmina Van Tayson

Ethel b. 1888 ob. 1888

Henry Caunter b. 1890

John Alan Lyde b. 1889 at Banwell = Helen Margaret Napier

Richard Laurence Luscombe Killed in action in Mesopotamia 1916

Pamela b. 1921 at Churt

Margaret

John Lyde b. 1924 at Churt

Mabel = Charles Herbert Rock ob. 30 May 1910

Henry Willoughby Dennis ob.

Herbert Cyril

Francis = Brenda Bede

Henry Lyde ob. 1918 at Liskeard = Sarah Beatrice Gray

Kate

Frederic Lyde b. 1892 at Liskeard = 1920 Sylvia Mary Sparrow

I do not guarantee accuracy of the first two generations.

F.L.C.

articled to his father and admitted a Solicitor in 1887, whereupon he entered into partnership with his father. He was appointed Town Clerk of Liskeard in 1889. In 1891 married Miss S. B. Clay, and in 1903 was appointed Clerk to the Magistrates for the Borough of Liskeard and the Division of the Hundred of West for Cornwall. He died in 1918. A man of the most conspicuous ability.

1891

Richard Lawrence Luscombe Caunter, born in the year ~~1889~~, a son of Dr. Richard Lawrence Caunter. Educated at Uppingham. Went to Ceylon and became a planter. Joined the Ceylon Planters Rifles, but left them and returned to England in 1914, and was gazetted into the 7th Gloucester Regiment (1st Kitchener Gloucester Battalion); served during the Great War with this battalion in Gallipoli. Was invalided on account of dysentry to England. Subsequently re-joined the 7th Battalion and went to Mesopotamia; was mortally wounded in an attack near Kut-El-Amara on the River Tigris, and died four days later, 18th December, 1916.

John Charles Ashford Caunter, born 1897, only son of Brigadier-General James Eales Caunter, C.M.G. Gazetted to the Welch Regiment and served with them and the R.F.C. in France during the Great War, attained the rank of Captain, and was killed at Paschendale Ridge, 28th October, 1917, at the age of 20.

V

Of the Staverton Caunters.

STAVERTON is in the Hundred of Haytor, and in the Deanery of Ipplepen. It is 3 miles from Totnes and 5 from Ashburton. Staverton Parish used to abound in orchards which it is said used to produce 8,000 hogsheads of cyder in a season. The precincts of the church are quite delightful. The River Dart winding past is crossed by a seven-arched bridge, the date of which Mr. Charles Henderson, a great authority on ancient bridges, considers fixed by an Indulgence of 1413. Polwhele described Staverton as " a very extensive fertile inclosed parish, abounding with hills and vales, well wooded and watered. Its produce is chiefly corn, cattle and cyder, of which last article there is some years a great plenty, and of excellent quality. It is bounded on the South by the River Dart, in which is plenty of trout fish ; on the West by Ashburton ; on the north by the parishes of Woodland and Broadhempston ; and on the east by the parish of Littlehempston."

It is clear that the Staverton Caunters held properties in the parish from 1500 until 1800. The reversion of most of these lands was vested in the Church, since Staverton Manor was a gift of Edward the Confessor to Bishop Leofric, who immediately gave it to the Dean and Chapter of Exeter by whom it has been continuously held.

Abham, a tenement at Staverton, was undoubtedly one of their homes for at least 150 years.

The

STAVERTON.

[*Facing p.* 62.

The house has now been demolished by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. The fact that there was a pane of glass at Abham with the name George Caunter 1775 scratched thereon was one link in the chain which resulted in the identification of the ancestors of this branch of the family. This pane was, I think, scratched by George Caunter, born 1758, who subsequently migrated to the East. To the Parish Register, extremely difficult to read, and in some places almost indecipherable, another useful link was added by the discovery of Sexton Rice of an old stone buried in the boundary hedge of the churchyard, on which is the following inscription :—

"CAUNTER

"Here lieth the body of John son of George Caunter of Abham who departed this life ye 4th day of October Anno Domini 1701 and also here lieth the body of ye said George Caunter and Richard his son. They were buried ye 7th day of September in ye year of OUR LORD 1705.

"Also here lieth ye body of Jude ye wife of ye said George Caunter of Abham who departed this life ye 8th day of December in ye year of OUR LORD 1738 aged 74 years."

Besides Abham, there were many other places occupied by Caunters in the Parish of Staverton, i.e., Sladedown or Sladerydown, Halsworthie, Harroden, Gulwell, Stretchford, and there is a small property in the Tithe Map called "Caunters." The arms attributed to this branch of the family are upon the screen of the Church.

It was thought that there were at one time some family tombs in the Chancel in Staverton Church

Church, and that the marbles with inscriptions had been removed, as many things in the past appear to have been taken away from the Church without a Faculty. Accordingly, Sexton Rice made further search, and in September, 1930, opposite the porch in the churchyard, discovered two stones under the turf. One is practically illegible.

On the other appears the following :—

"Also Elizabeth daughter of ye late Henry & Elizabeth Bradridge of Hole Wife of ye above sd George Caunter of Stretchford . . . sd children . . . Also here lyeth the body of Sibilla daughter of George & Elizabeth Caunter & Wife of Robert Mugford died 15th day of March 1764 aged 46.

"Also here lyeth the body of George Caunter of this parish who died 1st Day of May 1767 Aged 51. He was best of husbands, indulgent father, & most sincere friend.

"Also Jone, daughter of George & Elizabeth Caunter who died 7th Febr. 1769 in the 49th year of her age.

"Also Esther wife of George Caunter who departed this life 18th Dec. 1790 aged 67 years.

"She was . . . words are . . . Say what is kind & good . . ."

Perhaps some expert reader may be able to supply the missing links.

During the period 1680 to 1740, the following were Churchwardens :—

1681 Richard Caunter.
1692 George Caunter.
1703 Edward Caunter.

1710

1710 Christopher Caunter.
1717 Edward Caunter.
1721 George Caunter.
1737 George Caunter.

The Reverend E. D. Drake-Brockman kindly made a search for me amongst some of the Court Rolls of Staverton, deposited in the Dean and Chapter Archives at Exeter. They are apparently somewhat difficult to decipher, but there are the following entries in the 18th Century :—

A.D. 1729 Christopher Caunter & Samuel Caunter admitted tenants of the manor.

A.D. 1730 At Court Leet held.
Elizabeth Caunter of Sladerydown present.
Edward Caunter } named
Mr. Robert Caunter } amongst Court jury
Christopher Caunter admitted to the manor for ensuing year.
(a very illegible document constantly altered, and written in curious Latin and the script a mixture of court hand and common hand).

A.D. 1738 19th Oct at Court Baron
Christopher Caunter one of the "jury."
George Caunter amongst "Names of the homages," amongst those present,
1. George Caunter.
2. Elizabeth Caunter widow.
3. George Caunter.
(one George Caunter signed the roll

roll—obviously his own hand-writing, very good and clear, a refined hand).

A.D. 1750 at Court Leet assigned

1. George Caunter & George Caunter one messuage & tenement joynt (not named).
2. Joan Caunter a share of a tenement in Abham.

A.D. 1761 At Court Leet

Sibella Mugford née Caunter } named amongst
Grace Caunter } " defaulters."

George Caunter " gent." present.

Heirs of Robert Caunter assigned as tenants.

Later on is entered :—

Esther Caunter for

1. Sterts Tenement in Stretchford.
2. Another ,, ,, ,,
3. Crossing's Overland in Abham.
4. Middle Abham.

Here is the earliest Will I have found, viz., that of Joane Caunter who died 1548. After the close study of other Wills, I am inclined to the opinion that she and her husband were common ancestors of the Ashburton and Staverton Caunters but I admit failure to obtain definite proof.

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN The First daye of May in the yere of or lord god aj^{L} CCCCCXLV And the XXXVIIth yere of the Raigne of or sovraigne lord Henrie the VIIIth by the grace of god of England Frannce & of Ireland Kyng Defender of the Faith & of the Churche of England & allso of Ireland in eache the suprme hedd I

JOANE

JOANE CAUNTER of the pisshe of Stafferton in the cowntie of Devon widdoo beying in good & pfecte rembrance thanks be to god doe make my last wyll & testament in manr & forme foloyinge First I bequeth my solle unto allmyghtie god And my bodye to be buried in the Churche of Stafferton Allso I bequeth to the vicar of Stafferton for foregoten tethynge (tithes) VId Allso I bequeth to the Pore of Petr. & Pawle IIIId Itm. to the church of Assheberton VIs VIIId Itm. to evyrye of my chilldren a shepe It. to evyrye of my god chilldren unmaried IIIId Itm. to the bylldying of Cowllwyll (evidently Gullwill) brydge IIIs VId It. V^{L} VIs VIIId for a prist to pry for me & my Frynds where hit shall plese my executors to appoynt hym to syng It. I geve to John Voysie of Bovytracie a cowe Itm. I geve to Joane Voysie his dafftr my second best gerdell & a panne of Fower galons Itm. I geve unto Thoms. Caunter George Caunter and John Voysie the trme of Chewlie grownde hollden by Indenture wch I have lett & sett by conett unto Thos. Twoker yelldying & paying yerely IIII^{L} Allso dewing the time of his Indentures if he lyve so longe if not the bargyn to remayne into the hands of the priviate persons The residew of all my goods not bequethed I give & beqeth unto Thos. Cauntr & George Cawntr my sonnes And them both I make my verie & sole executors to be stowe of my goods as shall seme the best for the wellth of my solle deductying first of my goods XX^{L} stlng wch is to be levid and paide unto Thos. Cawnter

dew

dew unto hym by the beqethe of his Fayr And soe to see this my last wyll pformyd I doe ordayne my ovseers Thos. Dassheper & Edward Standynge & evry of them to have for there labour IIIs IIIId This beying wittes Robert Lemone clark Richard Passe & Richard Ryder . . .

Proved 9th January, 1548.

THOMAS CAUNTER, of Staverton, appears in the following :—

Muster and View of Arms 1569 for Parish of Staverton.

Public Records Office.

State Papers Domestic Elizabeth vol. 57.

Hundred of Haytor.

The Certificate of us John Scintlager Arthur Champernown John Moore Knight Pyers Edgecomb Esq. & William Strode Sheriff of the Countie of Devon Commissioners of Our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth by the Grace of Godd Queen of Ingland France & Ireland Defender of the Faith etc By Auctouritie of her highness' LRs. Patent unto us and to one Gawen Carowe Knight directed from her Mat High Court of the Chancery under her great Seale of Ingland bearing date at West^{mr} the 22 day of March in the eleventh year of Mat Raigne for the Musters and views of arms within the said Countie of Devon and accomplishinge of certayn instructions given by the Queens highness to the said Commissioners annexed unto the said Lttrs. Patent is declared anno dmi 1569

Gift.

Gift. Thomas Caunter of Harrodon one almen rivett.

N.B.—A set of German rivetted Armour a thing then apparently of new fashion.

Service. Thomas Caunter. Billeman.

In 1588, Thomas Caunter's name is found again as he was a subscriber of Twenty-five pounds to the Armada Fund.

THOMAS CAUNTER'S GIFT, 1592.

The following account appears in "The Report of the Commissioners concerning Charities," published at Exeter in 1826:—

"By indenture of feoffment, dated 2d January, 34th Elizabeth, THOMAS CAUNTER, of Gulwill, in the parish of Staverton, granted and confirmed to Thomas Foule and five others of Ashburton, and their heirs, a tenement and garden, with the appurtenances, situate in the borough of Ashburton, in a lane called Heavyhed Lane, on trust, for the use, benefit, and behoof of the poor of the parish of Ashburton, and as need should require, to place and put to dwell and inhabit in the said tenement such poor, impotent, aged, and diseased persons of the said parish of Ashburton, as should be thought meetest, by the consent and agreement of the eight men of the same parish, for the time being, or by the consent and agreement of the more part of them, without payment of any rent for the same.

"An almshouse, called the Eastern Almshouse, which was inhabited by poor widows stood about 30 years ago upon these premises, but the building fell down in consequence of

of the want of funds for its repair. It was in ruins in 1801, when a new trust deed, comprising this tenement, and the field called Bovey's Gift Meadow, was executed.

"The site of this house was let in 1807, by the trustees, to William Bickford, for 99 years, determinable on three lives, at the rent of Two pounds per annum; and the lease contains a covenant on the part of the lessee, to keep in repair all buildings as should be erected upon it, and to leave them in repair at the end of the term. A Methodist meeting-house has since been built on the site.

"It appears clearly to have been the intention of the donor, that this tenement should be a place of habitation for poor, aged, and diseased persons; but as there were no funds for its repair, we do not know how the trustees could have preserved it for that purpose."

THOMAS CAUNTER, of the Parish of Staverton, died in 1595, and in his Will referred to the "Caunter Gift," and bequeathed Twenty shillings yearly to be paid to the poor people in the Almshouses of Ashburton, which he had previously given, and directed this money to be paid out of the rent of his meadow at Gulwill Bridge. He gave to his nephew Roger Caunter, one of the sons of his brother John Caunter (who had died before he made his Will) an annuity towards his maintenance at school or at some Inns of Court for his preferment in learning, and he directed that if his nephew Roger should "discontinue and utterly give over his learninge and studie, then my

THREE ARCHES OF STAVERTON BRIDGE, OVER THE DART.

Photograph by Author.]

my Will is that the same Annuitie and yearlie rent shall rest and determyn." He gave to his wife Elizabeth an annuity payable out of his lands in Ashburton and Staverton, and his fishing rights in the Dart. He gave to his nephew Christopher Caunter, another son of his late brother John, his lands in the Parish of Staverton, and to his nephew John, another son of his late brother John, his lands in the Parish of Ashburton. He gave to his niece Joanna, daughter of his late brother John, a legacy.

GEORGE CAUNTER, of Staverton, Yeoman, who died 18th June, 1664, left a Will. He gave to his daughter Dorothie One hundred pounds in case she should marry " by the consent and accordinge to the minde and good likinge " of him or of his son Richard, but if this lady chose to marry without such consent, her legacy was to be reduced to Twenty pounds. He gave to his " sone George Caunter fower score pounds," and the residue to his son Richard.

This Will was proved on the 6th June, 1665.

GEORGE CAUNTER, of Staverton, born in 1686, died leaving a Will, which was proved in 1728. After the usual preamble he committed his body to the earth " to be decently buryed at the discretion of my Executrix hereafter named Imprs I give and bequeath unto my son George Caunter the sume of two hundred pounds of lawfull money of Great Britain to be paid by my Executrix when he shall attain to the age of one and twenty years or to be best owed at any time before to add his life joynt tenant with his Mother Itm. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Elizabeth

Elizabeth Caunter the sume of one hundred pounds of lawfull mony when shee shall attain to the age of twenty one yeers Itm. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Sybila Caunter the sume of one hundred pounds of lawfull mony to be paid when she shall attain to the age of twenty one years Itm. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Joan Caunter the sume of one hundred pounds of lawfull mony to be paid when shee shall attain to the age of twenty one years Itm. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Thomazin Caunter the sume of one hundred pounds of lawfull mony to be paid when shee shall attain to the age of twenty one years all which said sumes are to be paid by my Executrix Itm. I give and bequeath unto my son George Caunter above named all my Right Title and Interst of in & to a certain tenement lying at Emmet late in the possession of one Mary Allexander and also one other tenement called Barton Tenement to have and anioy the same when he shall attain to the age of twenty one years provided his life be not admited to my estates at Strytchford but in case he be admited joynt tenant with his mother on all my estates at Strytchford aforesaid then it is my will and pleasure that my Executrix shall enjoy the said Emmett and Barton tenmt during her life Itm. my will & pleasure is that if all or either of my four daughters above named shall think fitt to live from their mother that then they shall have three pounds a year each of them to be paid by my executrix untill her or they shall attain to the age of twenty one years Itm. I give and bequeath all my goods both quick and dead not given nor bequeathed before unto my beloved Wife Elizabeth Caunter whome I make

I make & APPOINT my full & sole EXECUTRIX of this my last Will and testament hereby revokeing disannuling and makeing void all former Wills and bequests by me made and declaring this only to be my last will and testament and I also desire my father in law Henry Bradridge and my cosin Jeffery Bully and my brother in law Thomas Bradridge to be trustees for my children to see this my last will and testament performed IN WITNESS whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year above written——— GEO. CAUNTER . . . Seal——— SIGNED Sealed published and declared in prsents of us——— HENRY BRADBRIDGE Junr.———

The Marke of———JOAN EDWARDS———
The Marke of THOMASIN HANEFORD———
Proved on the 10th day of May 1728.

ELIZABETH, the widow of the last-named George Caunter, lived at Stretchford, spelt Strachford in her Will, which is a long one. She seems to have been greatly concerned lest Robert Mugford the husband of her daughter Sibella should spend the legacy of £200 which the Testatrix left in trust for her daughter. Elizabeth left the residue of her estate to her son George, of Abham. She died 13th April, 1756. She had six daughters and two sons.

GEORGE (son of the last-named Elizabeth and George her husband), was born at Staverton 31st January, 1716, and died intestate 4th May, 1767. His estate was administered by his widow Esther, who lived until 1790.

GEORGE CAUNTER, of Abham, Staverton, was the eldest son of the last-mentioned George and Esther and he was born in 1758. He became

friendly with Sir John Shore, subsequently Lord Teignmouth, Governor General of India, and with him he went to the East. I find in some old notes a statement that George Caunter first married a Miss Cornish, a sister of the Miss Charlotte Cornish who married Lord Teignmouth, but I have not found any entry of this marriage in any register, and I feel sure that there has been confusion between this supposed marriage and the second marriage of George Caunter's sister Priscilla to Mr. James Cornish. It is quite clear that George Caunter married Miss Hutchings, the daughter of the Reverend Hutchings of Dittisham. The entry of his marriage in the Dittisham Register is as follows :—

> "George Caunter Gentleman of the Parish of Staverton but lately a sojourner of this Parish. Married in this Church by banns Twentieth day of July in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety by me J. Hutchings Rector. This marriage was solemnized between us
>
> " { George Caunter
> " { Harriett Georgina Hutchings
>
> " In the presence of
>
> " Priscilla Prout (evidently George's sister—see Tree).
>
> " George Yarde Sparks.

There were six children of this marriage.

On the 20th April, 1800, George Caunter was appointed first assistant to the Lieutenant-Governor of Penang, his wife having joined him in Penang in 1796 or 1797. On the 21st March, 1800, Sarah and Richard MacDonald were born. Their mother died at their birth. George Caunter returned to England after his wife's death

George Caunter, of Penang.

The Rev. Richard Macdonald Caunter.

[*Facing p.* 74.

death and married a Miss Ellicott. He left England with her to return to Penang where he acted as Governor, but his wife and young child died on the voyage and were buried at Madeira. He went on to Penang alone and continued to reside at Government House, but one day when cruising among the islands in his yacht, he was missed and was supposed to have been drowned, though it was rumoured that he was murdered at sea. Some of his descendants appear to have lived in a house at Penang called "Caunter Hall," and as lately as 1899, there were three ladies, Miss Caunters, living together in Penang. They are said to have been daughters of Mr. William Caunter, a descendant of Mr. George Caunter. "Caunter Hall" according to one of these ladies passed out of the hands of their family many years ago, and the old house is no longer in existence, though after the Caunters left it, "Caunter Hall" for a long time was used as a Chinaman's laundry.

George Henry Caunter, born in England in 1791, was the eldest son of George Caunter. He went out to the Cape in the Civil Service and married Mademoiselle Bestelle the daughter of a French judge, who, according to a miniature of her playing the harp, was very beautiful. They had one son Henry.

George Henry Caunter was an expert French scholar, and translated "Military Studies" from Marshal Ney's original manuscript, written by the Marshal for the use of his officers. G. H. Caunter's English version was published in 1833.

He also wrote "The Handbook of Chemistry," published in 1839.

He

He was very musical though upon what instrument he excelled I do not know. He wrote in the "English Annual" on the subject of Meyerbeer, and the opera "Robert le Diable," which he says "is alone sufficient to immortalise the name of Meyerbeer."

I may perhaps note here that in the same volume of the "English Annual," the Reverend J. Hobart Caunter writes an amusing little story entitled "The Statue."

The Reverend John Hobart Caunter, B.D. (born 1792, at Dittisham, Devon), was the second son of George Caunter of Penang, and born before his father went to Penang. He was educated at the Military College at Hertford for India, where he went as a cadet to the 34th Foot about the year 1810. He had only once seen his father and just after his arrival in India heard of his death. He travelled very considerably through India, returning to England in 1814, studied at Cambridge for the Ministry of the Church of England, and obtained the degree of B.D. He took Orders when about 30 years of age, and was for 19 years the Incumbent Minister of St. Paul's Chapel, Foley Place, in the Parish of Marylebone. In 1846 he took a lease of the proprietary chapel (St. James Episcopal) at Kennington, and was well known in London, as the fashionable preacher of the day. In his Church the seat rents are reputed to have run into a big income. He was for a short time Rector of Hailsham, Sussex, and was Chaplain to the Earl of Thanet, and was also Curate at Prittlewell, Essex. He was godson of Lord Hobart.

He bore arms Barry of six, or and gules, thirteen

The Arms of
The Rev. John Hobart Caunter, B.D.

thirteen bezants counter-changed 3, 2, 3, 2, 3. His crest was a naked arm erect, couped at the elbow holding a branch ppr. His motto "Quam non torret hyems."

He was an author of some note and his works include :—

"The Cadet"— a poem in six parts containing remarks on India written when he was a minor and published 1814.
"The Island Bride," published 1830.
"The Oriental Annual or Scenes in India," published 1830 to 1838.
"St. Leon," a drama, published 1835.
"The Poetry of the Pentateuch," published 1835.
"Familiar Lectures to Children," published 1835.
"The Romance of History (India)," three volumes, published 1836.
"The Fellow Commoner," published 1836.
"Pictorial Illustrations of the Old and New Testaments," published 1838.
"An Inquiry into the History and Character of Rahab," published 1850.
"Illustrations of the five books of Moses."

His best known work is the "Romance of History." In the form of stories, he gives remarkable details of the Mahommedan conquests of India. The letterpress of the "Oriental Annual" is all his, and he describes his travels throughout India in company with Mr. William Daniell, R.A. After Mr. Daniell's death, Hobart Caunter wrote another volume which was published under the title of "Caunter & Daniell's Oriental Annual," the drawings in this work being also by Daniell.

John

John Hobart Caunter died in 1852, leaving surviving him his wife and three children, whose names I have not been successful in discovering.

Although quite a prolific writer, he appears to have saved no money, and left his family without sufficient means, a public subscription being opened after his decease for their relief.

The Reverend RICHARD MACDONALD CAUNTER, third son of George Caunter, was born at Government House, Prince of Wales Island, Penang, on the 21st March, 1800, as was his twin sister Sarah. When about four years old, they were sent to England to live with their uncle, the Reverend Robert Hutchings of Dittisham Rectory, near Dartmouth, in Devonshire. These two children spent their childhood there, the boy attending a school at Paignton. At the age of 16 he became an ensign in the 16th Lancers and was sent to India. His sister Sarah accompanied him, she having become engaged to be married to Captain Thomas Larkins, of the East India Service, whose ship sailed in company with theirs. The voyage in those days took six months. George Caunter died soon after his son Richard MacDonald arrived in India, and the latter thereupon sold out his commission, returned to England, and obtained a scholarship at Sydney Sussex College, Cambridge, starting his career at the University as a sizar at Trinity. He obtained a double first, took Orders in 1824, and went to Mauritius as Chaplain to the Governor. He returned to England in March, 1829, in the Honourable East India Company's ship "Fairlie," on board which he preached two sermons of note, which were subsequently published. He had charge of a church

a church in London, and was morning preacher at St. Georges, Hanover Square, in 1831. In this year he preached in St. Pauls Cathedral. About this time he was tutor at Harrow to the sons of the Marquis of Abergavenny, Lord Delaware and Lord North. He became Curate at Forest Row, Sussex, in 1836, and was also Curate of Frant, Tunbridge Wells, and Pulborough, Sussex (the latter in 1839). After this, he became Curate at Amberley, Sussex, and on the 21st March, 1840, married Anne Harrison at Amberley. The late Mrs. Henrietta Phoebe Hamilton records in her notes that Anne Harrison's mother was a Miss Lennox Stuart, whose father's great-grandfather was first cousin to King James I, and that she, Mrs. Hamilton, was thus tenth cousin to Queen Victoria.

About 1841, Richard MacDonald and his wife went to Highclere Parsonage, near Newbury, where they lived until October, 1852. They subsequently lived at Hanwell, near Banbury, and in about 1860 went to Drayton.

Richard MacDonald Caunter used to remark on the fact that he had held the Queen of England in his arms, but I would hasten to add, as an infant.

He wrote "Attila" a tragedy in five acts in verse and other poems published in 1836. He was godson of Lord MacDonald of the Isles. He died 10th March, 1879.

Georgina Hutchings Caunter, daughter of Mr. George Caunter, of Penang, married Mr. Ibbetson who like his father-in-law did good service in the East and was sent on a mission to the East Coast of Sumatra to improve British

intercourse

intercourse with the chiefs there, which was as successful as Dutch intrigue and the then unsettled state of that coast would admit of.

Richard Hanley Caunter, born 1841, was the eldest son of the Reverend Richard MacDonald Caunter. His godfathers were Lord Bulwer Lytton and Baron Wolfe. He was educated at Rossall and Winchester. From Winchester, he went to work in the British Museum where he became Keeper in the Printed Books Department, Class I, and an expert in Spanish. In 1865 he married Violet Sybil Grant. Mrs. H. P. Hamilton describes Miss Grant as highly gifted, and the most beautiful woman she had ever seen.

George Henry Caunter, the only other son of the Reverend Richard MacDonald Caunter, married Georgina Atkinson Millard, daughter of Wensledale James Josiah Millard, who came from the Hugenot family of Maillard who were descended from the Princes of Rohan.

Mr. Edward Caunter, the only son of Richard Hanley Caunter, was born in London, on the 1st December, 1865. He lived in London during the early part of his life and married a French Countess. After his marriage he removed to Knocke in Belgium where he lived but he travelled very considerably. I am informed that he spoke no fewer than eight languages fluently. He once undertook a Government Contract for some British machinery in Russia, but was imprisoned in a Siberian fortress as he was suspected of being a spy

a spy. He died the 1st March, 1909, and was buried at Aschaffenburg in Bavaria, the family continuing to reside at Knocke until the outbreak of the Great War and German occupation, when they lost all their belongings; the German soldiers taking a fiendish delight in throwing the old china and glass, of which Mr. Edward Caunter had been a collector, into the street.

George Caunter = Joan d. 1548 at Staverton

George Caunter — Bede d. 1642 at Staverton

Thomas Caunter d. 1595 at Staverton

John Caunter = Elizabeth

Joan d. 1662 at Staverton

George Caunter called "Senior" d. 1644 at Staverton

Thomas Caunter d. 1603 at Staverton

Roger Caunter

Christopher Caunter

John Caunter

Joanna Caunter

Priscilla d. 1667 at Staverton

Richard Caunter of Stretchford b. 1618 at Staverton d. 1711 at Staverton = Sybilla Bulley

Sybilla Bulley d. 1652 at Staverton m. 1677 at Staverton d. 1667 at Staverton

Judith b. 1644 at Staverton d. 1738 at Staverton

George Caunter of Stoham Senior at Staverton b. 1622 d. 1705 at Staverton

Joan Caunter b. 1624 at Staverton

Dorothy Caunter = Henry Preston m. 1647 at Staverton

Edward Caunter b. 1667 at Staverton

Anonymous Child b. 1669 at Staverton

Priscilla Caunter b. 1679 at Staverton d. 1679 at Staverton

George Caunter b. 1681 at Staverton d. 1681 at Staverton

Richard Caunter b. 1682 at Staverton d. 1682 at Staverton

Richard Caunter b. 1683 at Staverton d. 1683 at Staverton

Edward Caunter b. 1685 at Staverton d. 1765 at Staverton

George Caunter of Stretchford b. 1687 at Staverton

Thomas son Caunter b. 1690 at Staverton

Richard Caunter b. 1681 at Staverton d. 1705 at Staverton

George Caunter of Stretchford b. 1686 at Staverton d. 1737 at Staverton = m. 1711 Elizabeth Bradridge b. 1682 at Hunsdon d. 1756 at Staverton

Edward

Elizabeth Collings

Sybella Jeffery

Judith Caunter b. 1699 at Stapleton = m. 1718 at Staverton Samuel Gearle

John Caunter b. 1701 at Staverton d. 1701 at Staverton

Elizabeth Caunter b. 1712 at Staverton d. 1747 at Staverton

Richard Caunter b. 1714 at Staverton d. 1723 at Staverton

Mr George Caunter of Stoham b. 1716 at Staverton d. 1767 at Staverton

Esther d. 1790 at Staverton

Sybilla b. 1717 at Staverton d. 1764 at Staverton = m. Robert Mugford

Joan Caunter b. 1720 at Staverton d. 1769 at Staverton

Thomasson Caunter b. 1721 at Staverton d. 1777 at Staverton

Enoch Caunter b. 1722 at Staverton d. 1724 at Staverton

Priscilla Caunter b. 1724 at Staverton d. 1725 at Staverton

Esther Caunter b. 1756 = m. 1776 Thomas Harris

George Caunter b. 1758 of Penang = 1st Harriett Georgina Hutchings daughter of The Revd John Hutchings of Dittisham and Dorcas Sparke of Dartmouth = 2nd Miss E Ellicott who died at sea

Priscilla Caunter b. 1760 = m. 1st 1785 Revd Thomas Prout of East Ogwell 2nd Jas Cornish of Blackhall

Richard Caunter b. 1763

George Henry Caunter of England b. 1791 = Madle Bestelle

Henry Caunter

The Revd John Hobart Caunter b. 1792 in England = Mlle Constantine Pluppy or Her daughter

Sarah Caunter b. 21 March 1800 at Government House Penang = Capt Lorkins of H.E.I.C.S. Nimy

The Revd Richard Macdonald Caunter b. 21 March 1800 at Government House Penang died 10 March 1879 Married at Petersham Cemetery near Kingston

21 May 1840 Anne Harrison Great Niece of The Revd John Hornby Rector of Kimberley. She died 10 July 1883 aged 70

Georgina Hutchings Caunter = 1st Mr Bennett = 2nd Robert Ibbetson d. 1880

Harriett Caunter = Mr Somerset

Lyon Bennett = Florence = Revd Herbert

Georgiana Bennett = Captain Stephens

Harriett Ibbetson

Richard Hanley Caunter b. 27 March 1841 = Jane 1862 Victoria Selby Grant

Edward Caunter b. 1865 d. 1909 = Elsie Bond

Eva Caunter

Olive Caunter

Elizabeth Mary Jane Caunter = The Revd Frederick Jackson Rector of West Lynn 30th March 1864

Georgina Sybella Caunter = Edward Hugh Jackson Solicitor of Warwick Augt 1868

Henrietta Phoebe Caunter = Thomas Seager Carter of Wallington Park Oxford 29 Oct 1879 = William James Hamilton of Fieldown Co Waterford

Harriett Anne Caunter b. 1816 d. 17 Oct 1902 = Frederick Hoare Coll 12 Aug 1876 a Barrister

Katherine Charlotte Caunter = Charles Donald Maclean I.C.S. at Madras 30th Nov 1863

Rachel Alice Caunter = Samuel Berridge

George Henry Caunter = Georgina Dickenson Mutlard

Sybella Rose Caunter died young

John Percy Meade = Rose daughter

Robert Percy Meade 2nd Lieut killed in action

Rose Harriet Theodosia Meade = Col Harris

Robert Aubrey Meade d. in Canada

Elvira Adela Meade d. 1923 = Roger Hall of Ardrow Keith & Down

Constance Meade d. 1874

A Son = a Spanish Lady

A Daughter = 1st A Col Daniel killed in action = 2nd Mr Bovey

Henry Macdonald Caunter b. 1874 = Georgina Sybella Jackson b. 1872

Alice Leonie Helen Caunter

Georgina Catherine Sybella Caunter b. 1904

George Macdonald Caunter d. 1924

Richard b. 1908

Constance Harris

Violet Harris

Beatrice Harris = de Haviland

Theodosia Harris d. 1925

A Son in Royal Navy = Miss Hall Knight

2 Children

A Son d. in action

Ethel M Jackson = Lieut Arthur Hamilton R.N.

Florence Hamilton

Anson Hamilton d. of wounds received in action Sept 1916

Violet Hamilton = 12 July 1917 Capt Edward Woodward

Donald Frederick Jackson = Mary Carter

Frederick Arthur Caunter Jackson b. 13 Jan. 1913

Herbert Russell Jackson = Mary Moor

Geoffrey Jackson b. 15 July 1917

Eustace Jackson

Arthur Jackson = Marie Cookson

Gwendolen Agnes Mary Jackson b. 6th April 1900

Gwendolen Georgina Mary Jackson

Edward Macdonald Caunter Jackson d. 1914

Georgina Sybella Caunter Jackson = Henry Macdonald Caunter

Hugh Macdonald Caunter Jackson = Ethel Dale

Isabel Mary Jane Caunter Jackson d. 1925

George Herbert Colt b. 19th July 1878 R.N.C.S. = 12 June 1912 = Henrietta Dodgshun Dick

Dorothy Helen Colt b. 5th May 1913

Helen Colt b. 31 Jan. 1882

Helen Sarah Symington Maclean d.

Donald Maclean d. young

Isabel Maclean b. 27 Dec 1876 = 20 Oct 1916 A Durand

Alexander Monteath Maclean b. 1872 = Josephine Dickson

Lachlan John Hunter Maclean

Overton Maclean

John Monteath Maclean = Sidney Colfox of Greenland

John Colfox

Uel Berridge

Rachel Estelle Berridge = Right Earl of O'Connell

Mary Berridge = Thomas Craven of Purbrook Hants

Guy Berridge = Gwendolen Thomas

Stephen Berridge

Cyril Berridge

Douglas Berridge

Reginald Aldara Manley Smith d. 1927

Gertrude Maria Manley Smith d. 1927

Arthur Newton Manley Smith

Florence Elinor Manley Smith d. 1916 = William Welsh d. 1874

Ernest Manley Manley Smith

Amy Georgina Manley = 1877 Ernest Hartland

Katherine Maud Manley Smith = Walter M Gibson K.C.V.O.

Bertram Robert Manley Smith d. 1916 in China

Margery Katherine Welsh 1905 = A McDaniel

Sibell Ibbetson Welsh

Anthony Welsh killed in action 1916

Reginald

Nicholas Moore Daniel b. 1915

Malcolm Gibson Reginald killed in action 1915

Everton Gibson = Edmund Sharp

Sabine Gibson

Claude Manley Gibson

Edgar Daniel Gibson killed in action

Bruce Katherine Gibson

3 Children

Lady Maria Estella Noble Frances Scott b. 1902 = 1920 Col Henry Christian Seymour Combe D.S.O.

Son

Daughter

Lady Estella Mary Jane b. 1906 = 1926 Major Mansel Halkett Jackson D.S.O.

A Son

Eliza Ibbetson = John Meade of Ingrahan Hall Bungay and Burkitt Wood Co Down

Samuel Ibbetson = 1st Sarah Maynar and Fielden = 2nd Myra

2 Sons 1 Daughter

Robert Ibbetson d.

Georgina Tenny Ibbetson b. 1825 at Sea d. 1910 = Charles Manley Smith Master of the High Court

NOTES.

8365